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# ARAB TIMES

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## Jewish influx threat to world peace: OIC

JEDDAH, March 19, (AP): The 46-member Organisation of the Islamic Conference warned today that the Soviet Jewish influx into Israel constituted a threat to world peace.

"To confront the serious consequences of new migration of Soviet Jews to the (Israeli) occupied lands, the OIC urges all its members to use all possible means and methods to prevent the implementation of the Zionist plot," said a statement issued after a two-day meeting by a committee of OIC experts.

It did not spell out the means it foresaw but the nine-member committee also appealed to the Soviet Union, the United States, and the United Nations and other international bodies "to adopt necessary measures to oblige Israel to halt its barbaric practices against the Palestinian and Arab lands."

The meeting at the Jeddah-based OIC, umbrella for the world's estimated 1 billion Muslims, is the latest countermove by Arab and Islamic bodies against the flow of the Soviet Jews into Israel.

There are fears in the Arab world that hundreds of thousands will settle in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"The OIC follows up with deep anxiety and grave concern the perilous developments resulting from the emigration of the Jews from the Soviet Union to occupied Palestine which is a flagrant violation of... the human rights charter, the UN resolutions... The 1949 Geneva Convention of 1949 and the Helsinki Agreement," said the OIC statement.

The committee comprised officials from Jordan, Malaysia, Morocco, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

In Manama, Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen said today that Beijing would back any Arab move at the UN Security Council to curtail the emigration of Soviet Jews to Israel.



**Bomb blast kills one**  
Relatives of victims of a bomb blast in New Delhi weep outside a hospital where the injured were being treated. One man was killed and 17 injured from the bomb blast, which occurred in a vegetable market. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Assembly under new rules

### Crown Prince to present report to Amir shortly

HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah has said that wide consultations with Kuwaitis showed they favoured a return to parliamentary democracy but under rules different from those of the Assembly dissolved in 1986.

Sheikh Saad told the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) that during a month and a half of talks with the people he concluded they wanted clear "regulations and criteria" for a new parliament.

Sheikh Saad has been holding meetings with pro-government and opposition personalities after HH the Amir offered a dialogue on public participation in government.

Kuna quoted Sheikh Saad as saying the consultations were necessary to "guarantee constructive co-operation between the constitutional authorities and boost national unity."

Many Kuwaitis and former deputies agree that rowdy public debates in the previous Assembly sowed divisions among the citizens.

## 29 butchered in Punjab

### Sikh militants attack

AMRITSAR, India, March 19, (Reuters): At least 29 people were killed in a sudden spurt of violence in the Sikh militant campaign for an independent homeland in Punjab, police said today.

They said the death toll in the 24 hours starting yesterday night included 14 people shot dead in one attack.

Police and residents of the remote village of Dalwani Bhai in southwestern Punjab said three men wearing Indian police uniforms set up a roadblock nearby last night.

They stopped the car of Sikh moderate Prem Singh and killed him, his bodyguard and a third man.

The men then stopped trucks and ordered the passengers to get off, telling Sikhs to flee. They drove 11 non-Sikhs to Ferozepur, 25 km (15 miles) away. Five men dressed as orthodox Sikhs joined them and they lined them up and shot them dead.

In another incident near Amritsar, the Sikh holy city, five members of one family were kidnapped yesterday. Their bodies, surrounded by bullet casings, were found today, police said.

Well-known leftist politician Hardev Singh, a vocal opponent of the militants, was killed yesterday in the village of Harsha Shina near Amritsar, police said.

Other victims included a former member of the powerful committee that runs Amritsar's Golden Temple, the holiest Sikh temple. Several militants also died, police said.

Some 550 people have died this year in the Sikh separatist violence despite efforts by Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh, who made peace in Punjab a priority when he took office in December.

At least 397 people have been killed so far this year in Punjab by the Sikh militants, who say they need their own nation to combat what they call political and social discrimination by the government.

India was established as a secular nation after attaining independence from Britain in 1947. But Hindus, who make up 82 per cent of the population, dominate the government.



Lothar de Maiziere 'soreams' with delight

## East German communists take a beating

### Conservatives seek allies

EAST BERLIN, March 19, (Agencies): The leader of the Conservative Alliance that won the most votes in East Germany's election called today for tearing down the rest of the Berlin Wall and accelerating unification talks with West Germany.

Lothar de Maiziere, considered the top candidate for prime minister, also offered to form a broad coalition with other parties following Sunday's first-ever free balloting.

But the head of the leftist Socialist Democrats, which finished second, rejected a coalition with the Conservative Alliance.

De Maiziere's Christian Democratic Union won almost 41 per cent of the vote, good for 164 seats in the 400-member Parliament. It is allied with two other conservative parties that control another 29 seats, leaving the alliance eight seats short of a controlling majority.

The CDU is the sister party of West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats. Kohl is a leading proponent of unification.

Speaking less than 24 hours after the victory, De Maiziere told reporters the Berlin Wall "must be removed as soon as possible as a clear sign of the merging of the two German states."

The Wall, long a symbol of East-West acrimony and East German repression, was opened Nov 9 after East Germany's popular revolt toppled hardline communist leaders in October. Large sections of the Wall already have been removed.

De Maiziere, reading a statement by the Conservative Alliance, said it "wanted to build a possible grand coalition."

"Therefore, we are inviting the Social Democrats and the Union of Free Democrats to coalition talks," he said. He earlier had expressed doubts about including the Social Democrats in a coalition.

The Social Democrats finished second in the voting with about 22 per cent of the vote, for 87 Parliament seats. It was a pre-election favourite that called for a more deliberate approach to unification than the CDU. The Union of Free Democrats is a smaller liberal party that won 21 seats.

The former Communist Party, now called the Party of Democratic Socialism, won just over 16 per cent of the vote to finish third, controlling 65 seats.

Gregor Gysi, chairman of the reformed Communist Party, offered support to the leftist Social Democrats in an attempt to prevent the conservatives from gaining a two-thirds parliamentary majority.

## Kohl expects winning all-German elections

BONN, March 19, (Reuters): Chancellor Helmut Kohl, buoyed by a landslide election victory by fellow-conservatives in East Germany, said today he was confident the centre-right would win elections in a united Germany.

"It is quite clear that in an all-German election, the (West German) CDU/CSU (ruling parties) would have an excellent chance of achieving a first-class result along with the parties of the (East German Conservative) Alliance," he told a news conference.

Kohl gave no indication of when he thought the first all-German elections would be held. But asked if West Germany's parliamentary elections in December could be expanded to include both parts of Germany, he replied: "I don't think it will be an event of this nature."

Kohl said his government would work with the new East German government to bring about economic and social union of the two states on the road to full political unification.

"We are convinced that we must not disappoint the expectations of the citizens and voters of East Germany and that the confidence and trust that people have put in us and our policies must be justified," he said.



Kohl

## US planned to attack Rabta plant

NEW YORK, March 19, (Reuters): The United States had plans for a military strike against Libya's Rabta chemical plant if diplomatic action failed to stop it going fully operational, and might have used a cruise missile, Newsweek said yesterday.

The plant at Rabta, 50 miles (80 km) southwest of Tripoli, was hit by a fire last Wednesday that President George Bush said had apparently knocked it out.

Newsweek quoted sources close to the White House as saying that, before the fire occurred, Bush had already decided that the plant, which the United States insists was manufacturing chemical weapons, would not be allowed to go fully operational.

## Flush or get damned

SINGAPORE, March 19, (Reuters): Singapore is promoting the use of sensor-operated devices to detect unflushed toilets. Environment Minister Ahmad Mawardi said today.

He said the systems had been installed in his ministry building and in some open-air food centres controlled by the ministry. He urged public organisations to do the same for their busier toilets.

Under a law passed 20 months ago, anyone who does not flush a public toilet after use can be fined up to 1,000 Singapore dollars (\$500). Violators are caught by health authorities on "100 patrols".

## Weather

FAIR weather with light to moderate northwesterly wind and some clouds will appear.

State of sea: Slight to moderate

High water: 7.00 am, 4.30 pm

Low water: 10.45 am, 12.00 pm

Sunrise: 5.52 am

Sunset: 5.59 pm

Maximum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 21°C/70°F

Ahmad: 19°C/66°F

Falaka: 20°C/68°F

Minimum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 7°C/45°F

Ahmad: 13°C/55°F

Falaka: 12°C/54°F

Maximum temperatures expected:

Kuwait: 22°C/72°F

Ahmad: 21°C/70°F

Falaka: 21°C/70°F

Minimum humidity recorded:

Kuwait: 36 per cent

Ahmad: 46 per cent

Falaka: 36 per cent



Aquino

## Cory firm on bases talks

MANILA, March 19, (UPI): President Corazon Aquino today rejected calls from lawmakers for the cancellation of US military bases next month on the future of key US military bases in the Philippines.

US officials over the weekend raised the possibility Washington would pull its military installations out of the Philippines within a year if no mutually acceptable arrangement was reached on a renewal of US base rights, which expire in 1991.

Congressmen regarded statements by Defence Secretary Dick Cheney and US Pacific Commander Adm. Huntington Hardesty as threats and urged Aquino to scrap upcoming talks with the United States and instead serve a notice of termination of the bases pact.

"It is essential that we do have these exploratory talks so that the Philippine side can also present its plans and also indicate again the (termination) of the present bases agreement in 1991," Aquino said.

"This is also in the matter of the shortfall (in aid levels of \$96 million this year) we will be discussing in the exploratory talks (which) will go on and as scheduled either on April 18 or 19," Aquino said.

Washington has pledged to provide the Philippines \$962 million in aid in the last two years of the treaty covering six facilities, including the huge Clark Air Base and Subic Bay Naval Complex.

Cheney said on Saturday in Washington it was unlikely the US Congress would approve the significant increase in compensation that the Philippines was requesting in return for renewing the bases treaty. The bases are manned by some 14,500 service personnel.

## Japanese satellite orbits moon

TOKYO, March 19, (Reuters): Japan became the third nation to send a craft into lunar orbit today when its Hageromo spacecraft swung by the moon at a distance of 16,000 kms (10,000 miles).

After a five-and-one-half week journey during which scientists fine-tuned the craft's trajectory, Hageromo moved into a tight lunar orbit at 2004 GMT yesterday.

A larger mother spacecraft which had jettisoned Hageromo 30 minutes earlier entered a larger orbit around the earth.

"We've taken one step forward toward planetary missions," said Yasuhiro Matagawa.

The mission aims to develop expertise in harnessing the gravity of the moon to land spacecraft on it or to swing them deeper into space to rendezvous with Venus or with comets. Such missions are being contemplated for later this decade.

Hageromo, named after a feather robe which in Japanese legend was worn by a celestial nymph, also explored a trajectory similar to one planned for the next mission by ISAS.

The geotail satellite is due to be launched in the next mission in July, 1992 to investigate solar particles which generate auroras.

Today's swing-by made Japan the third nation after the United States and the Soviet Union to send a spacecraft into orbit around the moon.

Hageromo is the first spacecraft to visit the moon since the unmanned Soviet Luna 24 landed on the lunar surface in August, 1976. The first lunar fly-by was on March 3, 1959 by the US Pioneer 4 spacecraft.

## India imposes higher taxes

By Thomas Abraham Arab Times staff

NEW DELHI, March 19: India's Finance Minister Madhu Dandavate imposed higher taxes on several items and announced many concessions to net an additional revenue of Rs1,959 crores during 1990-91 in the National Front government's maiden budget presented to parliament today.

Among the items on which higher taxes have been proposed are petrol, cars, microwave ovens, washing machines, audio systems, video cassette recorders and cooking ranges. Duties on items like refrigerators and air conditioners have also been raised.

Air travel will now be costlier with a 10 per cent tax on the fare. Prices of postal stationery like printed post cards and inland cards have also been jacked up.

Dandavate has raised the exemption limit for personal income taxation from Rs18,000 to Rs22,000 per annum, taking nearly a million persons out of the tax net. Further, the lowest rate of income tax of 20 per cent has been extended from the present limit of Rs25,000 to Rs30,000.

The Finance Minister has continued the eight per cent surcharge, making it applicable to taxable incomes beyond Rs75,000. He also announced several changes in the existing schemes of tax incentives to promote savings.

Dandavate has proposed a twin strategy to ensure better compliance of corporate taxation. He established major incentives like investment allowance and investment deposit account to close the escape route for the corporate sector to go out of the tax net. The rate for widely held domestic companies has been fixed at forty per cent, with corresponding changes in rates for other domestic companies.

Dandavate has estimated the deficit for 1990-91 at Rs7,206 crores, against the budget estimates of Rs7,337 crores and revised estimates of Rs11,750 crores for the current year.

There is a substantial increase in the provision for defence services at Rs15,750 crores, a direct result of the situation on the Indian borders.

In keeping with the new government's commitment to ensure that



Ideal Home

Prime Minister Thatcher does some cooking during her visit to the 'Ideal Home' exhibition.

## Kuwait defends Iraq's execution of journalist

KUWAIT yesterday joined Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and other Gulf states in denouncing what it described as the atrocious campaign against Iraq following the hanging last Thursday of a London-based journalist on spying charges.

"Iraq exercised its natural right in protecting its national security," Kuwait Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Sabah said in a statement to the Iraqi News Agency.

Iraq hanged last Thursday 31-year-old Farzad Bazoft, an Iranian-born reporter for the Observer newspaper of London, after a five-hour closed trial. Reports in Iraqi press accused Bazoft of spying for Britain, Israel and Iran. They said he entered a secret defence establishment where British press reports said hundreds of people died in an earlier explosion, and removed soil samples, "in an act designed to inflict damage on Iraqi security."

Kuwait said Iraq had a right to defend its national security.

"The sisterly Republic of Iraq, while exercising its legitimate right to protect its sovereignty, people, security and stability, is merely exercising a natural privilege specified by laws, traditions and principles, based on justice and national responsibility," he added.

## ARAB TIMES Grand Bingo

Mr Anup Chandra and Mrs Jasbir K. Bhatia have won the Four Corners and Top Line prizes respectively. They will receive KD 25 each. Game No. 76 continues for the First, Second and Third Full House Prizes.

Zahed Matar



## INTERNATIONAL

# Benazir rallies Punjabi support

## Endorsement of Parliament demanded

ISLAMABAD, March 19, (Reuters): Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, sidestepping opposition demands that she seek fresh endorsement by Parliament, takes her campaign for public support to the heartland of her political foes tomorrow with a huge rally in Lahore.

The rally set for March 20 coincides with the date on which the President's constitutional power to appoint the prime minister lapses and the National Assembly is empowered to elect the premier.

Benazir has shunned repeated opposition demands that she seek re-election by the 237-member National Assembly on March 20, and instead she will go to Lahore, the Punjab power-base of her chief political foe Nawaz Sharif, to prove her popular support.

Political analysts say Benazir, who has strengthened her position since she narrowly defeated a no-confidence vote in the assembly last November, stands to gain further after March 20.

They note Benazir will depend after that date on parliamentary support, which she enjoys, rather than on the discretion of the President who does not belong to her Pakistan People's Party (PPP). The change will also bring wavering deputies to her side, political observers say.

But the opposition is insisting

that Benazir, named prime minister in December 1988 by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, must seek re-election.

The Combined Opposition Parties (COP) coalition says it will go to court to challenge the prime minister's constitutional right to continue in office.

Government spokesmen say the vaguely worded election provision applies only to a new prime ministerial candidate, not to an incumbent.

The prolonged COP campaign against Benazir received a set-

back last week when Ishaq Khan appeared to throw his weight behind the prime minister's legal position.

Openly declining to meet the opposition's demand that he ask Benazir to seek re-election, he said: "I don't need to be dictated about what to do or not to do."

His remarks shocked the opposition which had previously had a sympathetic hearing from a man who shared their close association with late military President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq.



Kim for Moscow

Kim Young-Sam, a co-leader of South Korea's ruling Democratic Liberal Party, left on Monday for Moscow for high-level talks aimed at improving relations with the Soviet Union.

Capitalist South Korea has no full diplomatic relations yet with the Soviet Union, although the two countries have recently expanded trade and set up limited consular ties.

Kim Young-Sam and his wife Sohn Myong-Soon wave to well-wishers at Seoul's Kimpo Airport. (Reuters wirephoto)

# Nepal extends house arrests of opposition leaders

KATMANDU, March 19, (UPI): The government has extended the house arrests of opposition leaders while giving fresh signals it may be willing to bend on their demand for multi-party democracy, opposition and official sources said today.

The house arrests of three leaders of the banned Nepali Congress Party, already one month old, were extended yesterday for another three months.

The action followed more than a month of nationwide demonstrations and work stoppages led by the Nepali Congress Party and seven other leftist parties that have resulted in thousands of arrests and at least 13 deaths.

The detentions of the Nepali Congress Party's senior leader, Ganesh Man Singh, its acting president, Krishna Prasad Bhattarai, and its Secretary-General, Girija Prasad Koirala, were extended for "personal security" reasons, the sources said.

Also, Dr Ananda Bhatta, who had been critical of alleged police excesses against female students during and before the movement, was arrested today, opposition sources said.

A top official in Nepal's partyless panchayat system of elective councils said meanwhile in an interview with the official National News Agency that some type of reforms will be made in the system, but reforms should be made only through the constitutional process, said Navraj Subedi, chairman of the national parliament.

He nevertheless claimed the movement initiated Feb 18 by the eight opposition parties "is not a people's movement. It is clear that the movement's proponents have been rejected and denied popular support."

King Birendra hinted last week at making

political reform within the panchayat system, but his overtures were rejected by opposition leaders who have insisted on the full restoration of the multi-party democracy the king's father abolished 29 years ago.

Also, Krishna Pahari, a local organizer with the London-based human rights group Amnesty International, was reported in serious condition while continuing a hunger strike he began Feb 16 to protest prison conditions.

Pahari was first arrested in Biratnagar in south-east Nepal, and later transferred to a remote hill jail in Tahrathum, where he was continuing the fast as of Friday, his relatives said.

Many prisoners detained during the movement, especially those arrested in Kathmandu, have been transferred to remote jails where conditions are worse, opposition sources said.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Workers freed

SEOUL, March 19, (AP): Police today released all but seven workers arrested a day earlier in nation-wide labour protests organised by an outlawed dissident union group, officials said.

Police officials said 1,552 people, some of them radical students, were arrested in clashes with riot police in Seoul, Pusan, Taegu, Taejeon, Incheon, Chonju, Anyang and Bucheon.

### Bomb blast kills 1

NEW DELHI, March 19, (UPI): A bomb exploded today at a bustling wholesale vegetable market in New Delhi, killing one person and wounding 17, police said.

Police described the bomb as "powerful and a sophisticated device" and said it apparently was left in a bag used for carrying vegetables.

### Shrines burned

TOKYO, March 19, (AP): Three shrines in Tokyo were burned to the ground before dawn today, and police are investigating the possible involvement of ultra-leftist radicals.

No one was hurt in the three separate fires, said an official of the Tokyo metropolitan police department.

### Aids baby

COLOMBO, March 19, (Kuna): Sri Lanka's first Aids infected baby was born today in a state run hospital in capital Colombo a health official said.

The official said, the baby, a boy, was delivered under safe conditions and precautions will be taken against other patients contracting the killer disease.

### Suicide

BANGKOK, March 19, (UPI): A young Thai woman committed suicide by jumping into a pond filled with crocodiles in front of hundreds of horrified tourists, a police officer said today.

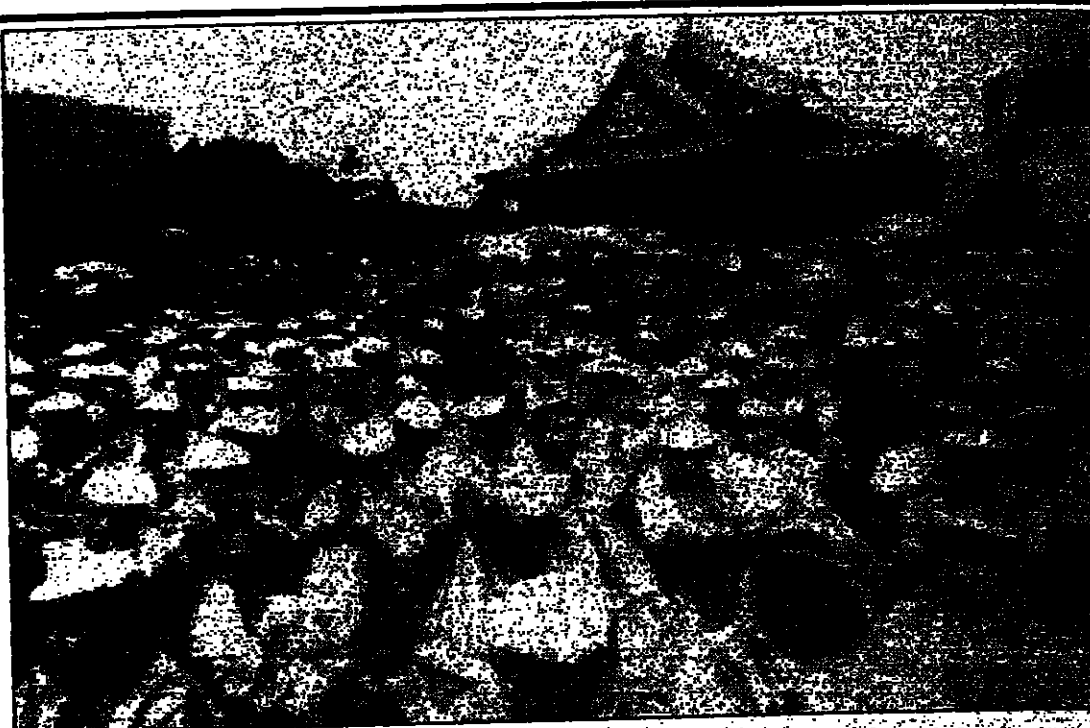
Lt. Col. Sanya Weechareon, a police inspector of the Paknam police station, said an unidentified woman in her early twenties died of multiple bites after jumping into a crocodile pond at the Samut Prakan crocodile farm yesterday.

### Missing ship

CANBERRA, March 19, (AP): Searches for a Japanese trawler and a Panamanian-registered bulk carrier missing off the coast of Western Australia continued today without success.

The Japanese-registered trawler Dahlia II placed an emergency radio call on Saturday that was picked up by Indonesian officials.

The boat, with 22 Indonesians and four Japanese on board, was fishing off the island of Java when that region was battered by cyclone Alex, a spokesman for the sea safety centre said.



Taiwan protest

Taiwan students protesting themselves from a steady rain, cheer political speeches in Taipei. Taiwan's nonpolitical students are now demanding more democracy. (Reuters wirephoto)

# Fernandes gets hostile reception

## First foray outside Srinagar

SRINAGAR, India, March 19, (Reuters): India's new minister for Kashmir was greeted with hostility today as he made his first foray outside Srinagar, the centre of an anti-Indian uprising.

"The people of Kashmir are angry, which I could feel wherever I went," Minister George Fernandes told reporters.

Fernandes, who is also railways minister, ventured outside Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir state's summer capital, into villages and small towns.

Almost everywhere he was met by hostile crowds chanting secessionist slogans for largely India's only Muslim-majority state.

"We want freedom," they yelled. Most shopkeepers pulled down their shutters as Fernandes arrived, apparently fearing more of the trouble in which over 200 people have been killed since mid-January.

The Kashmir valley, once a popular tourist spot for its scenic Himalayan views and lakes, has largely been under curfew since a long-simmering secessionist

mood exploded into violence.

In Srinagar, curfew breaks have been extended to 12 hours in recent days, from dawn to just before dark.

Many curfew breaks have been marked by demonstrations and attacks by secessionist gunmen. Delhi alleges are armed and trained by Pakistan, which controls one-third of Kashmir.

Pakistan, which has fought two of its three wars with India over Kashmir, denies the charges.

There was more violence today, even as Fernandes made his tour.

In Srinagar, militants killed telecommunications engineer B.K. Ganjoor.

Two masked gunmen entered Ganjoor's house and shot him dead. They left behind a message claiming responsibility on behalf of the Jammu and Kashmir Students' Liberation Front, one of many groups fighting Indian rule.

The message said Ganjoor had been killed because he was a police informer.

# Fugitive gov removed from office

MANILA, March 19, (AP): The government today formally removed from office provincial governor who has been indicted for rebellion and blamed for the killing of a general.

The governor, Rodolfo Aguinaldo, was suspended earlier pending a decision on the charges filed Dec 7, six days after a gun-ald spoke over a local radio station in Manila expressing support for numerous soldiers.

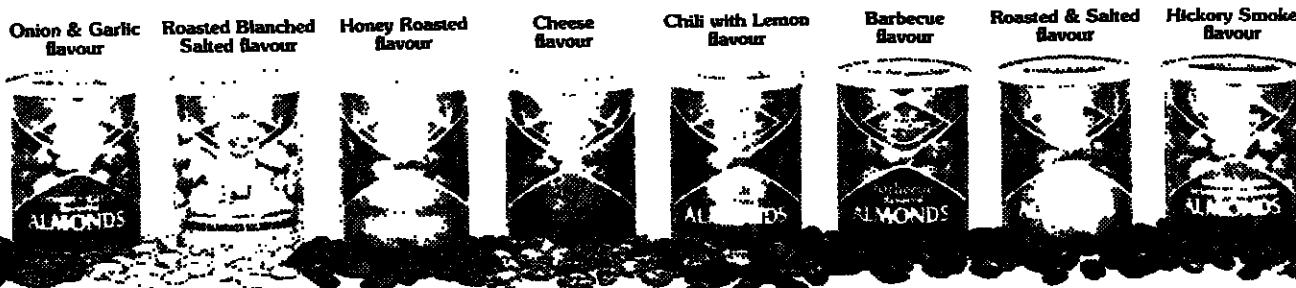
The rebel soldiers had launched the sixth and most serious attempt to topple President Corason Aquino.

Aguinaldo was indicted Feb 27 on a charge of rebellion with murder in connection with the mutiny. The governor, who had a large band of armed supporters, refused to surrender and holed up at a town near the provincial capital of Tuguegarao, 344 kilometres (215 miles) north of Manila.

Santos and other military officials tried to negotiate with Aguinaldo for four days, and on Mar 4 the governor and his followers seized a hotel and took Brig. Gen. Oscar Florendo hostage, trapping the secretary on the second floor.

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ان کے لیے کلاسز: (نوائے) ۲۲ ماہ ۱۹۹۰ء صبح ۱۰ بجے  
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ان کے لیے کلاسز: (نوائے) ۲۲ ماہ ۱۹۹۰ء صبح ۱۰ بجے  
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## PEOPLE AND PLACES

**NEW YORK:** New York City Mayor David Dinkins says there was a method to his acting debut: let Dinkins be Dinkins.

The mayor starred as himself in a cameo role in a new made-in-New York action adventure television show called "H.E.L.P." the series is about people who answer police emergency telephone calls and bail people out of a myriad of urban disasters.

Dinkins said playing himself was simple.

"I know me well," he said.

The mayor's part called for him to present a medal for bravery to a heroic firefighter. In the role, Dinkins strides into city hall's blue room—site of daily mayoral news conferences—and utters 54 words.

The mayor was paid union scale, \$414, for his 30-minute work Tuesday. He said he plans to donate it to the Harlem junior tennis programme, which teaches the sport to indigent youth.

Director Janet Greek pushed over Dinkins' moonlighting. "He was really great," she said.

**ROME:** Italy's top anti-Mafia official will appear in court in June to answer charges that he abused his powers and violated the secrecy of his office, judicial sources said on Sunday.

Domenico Sica, formerly Italy's leading anti-terrorist investigator, was appointed anti-Mafia high commissioner in August 1988 with extensive powers to co-ordinate a national crackdown on organised crime.

A Rome public prosecutor has formally accused Sica of abusing his power in his efforts to identify the author of a series of anonymous letters written last summer. The letters accused investigators in Palermo of negligence in their inquiries into the Sicilian Mafia. (Reuters)

**WASHINGTON:** President George Bush reportedly has banned broccoli from a diet known to include pork rinds doused in hot sauce and candy bars crumbled over cereal.

The March 26 issue of US News and World Report said Bush, an avowed vegetable hater and junk-food junkie, decreed that broccoli never be served on air force one, the presidential jet.

Bush, the report said, finally asserted himself after being forced to put up with the vegetable during his eight years as vice-president.

The no-broccoli edict raised at least one protest.

"What will parents tell Johnny when he refuses to eat his broccoli or other vegetables?" said Bob Carey of the produce marketing association, "that the president doesn't know what's good for him?" (AP)

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**DI meets dancers**

The Princess of Wales meets with 100 tribal dancers outside the governor's lodge on March 18. (Reuters wirephoto)

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**MINNEAPOLIS:** Three North West Airlines pilots accused of flying a commercial jetliner from Fargo, north Dakota, to Minneapolis while intoxicated will appear in court on Tuesday.

The National Transportation Safety Board will hear the appeals April 3, said attorneys representing Robert Kirchner first officer, and Joseph Balzer second officer on the March 8 flight.

The Federal Aviation Administration revoked the licenses of Kirchner, Balzer, and Capt. Norman L. Prowse, on March 9 after its investigation showed the cockpit crew boarded the flight within eight hours of drinking, the federal limit.

North West fired the three pilots on Friday after its own investigation, saying they had violated the company's stricter rules prohibiting drinking less than 12 hours before flying. (AP)

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**ADAMSTOWN, Pennsylvania:** The suave man-about-town hunting for the "Dick Tracy" look should be able to get the comic book sleuth's trademark Fedora.

George W. Bullman Company, Incorporated, a hatmaker in Adamstown, not far from Philadelphia, is pinning its hopes on the success of the new movie about the square-jawed crime fighter. The moving starring Warren Beatty and Madonna is to be released June 15. (AP)

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**AMERICUS, Georgia:** Habitat for Humanity, an organisation that builds housing for the poor, hopes to recruit electrician Lech Walesa and carpenter Jimmy Carter to work on a project in Poland.

Clive Ratney, Habitat's senior associate for development, said he visited Poland recently to lay the groundwork for a project that could include renovation and expansion of former government-owned buildings for apartments. (AP)

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**PARIS:** The French fashion designer Yves Saint Laurent, 53, was hospitalised on Saturday because of fatigue and will be unable to attend his ready-to-wear show in Paris this week, his fashion house said Monday.

A statement from Yves Saint Laurent's doctor said the designer "was suffering from intellectual fatigue and I advised him to abstain from all activities for several weeks in order to insure a period of total rest."

The world renowned designer's latest creations will be presented this Wednesday at the current Paris fall and winter ready-to-wear shows. (UPI)

**NEW YORK:** The master of underwater pogo sticking, marathon yodeling and long-distance juggling has muscled his way into the Guinness Record Book with another peculiar pastime—cranking out 1,551 squat-thrusts in an hour.

Ashrita Furman, already a Guinness World record-holder a dozen times over, performed his latest feat Tuesday before awestruck observers in a New York City gymnasium.

"I don't think he's human," said the gymnasium's owner Robert Fuchs. (AP)

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**PRAGUE:** President Vaclav Havel opened the first free congress of the Charter 77 human rights group Sunday by saying it was a dream come true.

"I used to have a dream when I was free, but even more often in prison," he told the group in Prague. "It was the dream that all signatories of Charter 77 would meet to talk undisturbed by the police. This dream is coming true today."

For 13 years, signers of the landmark Czechoslovak human rights Charter of 1977 were unable to find work, harassed by police and often imprisoned.

But with the overthrow of the communist regime in Czechoslovakia last year and the advent of democracy, Charter 77 is in the open and trying to redefine its mission. (UPI)

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Milli Vanilli hold their Juno award after having their album *Girl You Know It's True* named best international Album of the Year at Canada's annual music award. (Reuters wirephoto)

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Kenneth Branagh was named best director for *Henry V*, in which he played the title role. The 29-year-old actor had also been nominated for best actor.

American writer Nora Ephron walked off with the award for best original screenplay for *When Harry Met Sally*, a comedy about a decade-long friendship that turns into love.

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**NEW YORK, March 19, (AP):** Some of the biggest names in the music industry turned out Saturday night for a benefit concert billed as the single largest fundraising event for Aids.

The "That's What Friends Are For" concert at Radio City Music Hall was expected to raise between 2 million and \$3 million.

Carly Simon, Whitney Houston, Air Supply, The Eurythmics, Dionne Warwick, Jermaine Jackson, Daryl Hall and John Oates, Patti Smith, Milli Vanilli and Kenny G. were among those artists scheduled to perform.

The concert was sponsored by Arista records, which was celebrating its 15th anniversary.

Proceeds from the concert were earmarked for the Gay Men's Health Crisis and other Aids organizations.

The Health Crisis Group, founded in 1981, has over 1,600 volunteers who provide support services to more than 2,700 people with Aids. The organisation also advocates public education on the fatal disease.

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**Museum haul worth millions**

**Thieves steal masterpieces**

**BOSTON, March 19, (Agencies):** Thieves disguised as policemen stole hundreds of millions of dollars worth of European masterpieces, including Rembrandt's only known marine painting, from a private museum after overpowering guards yesterday, authorities said.

The thieves, who handcuffed, maced and blindfolded the security guards, seized a dozen artworks from the museum, including Rembrandt's "Storm on the Sea of Galilee," a Vermeer oil entitled "The Concert," three Degas sketches, a Manet painting and a 12th century BC Chinese bronze vase.

The Vermeer painting was one of only 30 in the world and the Rembrandt oil the only known seascape by the artist, the museum said. The thieves also stole a second oil painting and an etching by Rembrandt.

The two thieves told security guards at Boston's Isabella Stewart

Gardner Museum that they were checking in report of a disturbance when they arrived after midnight.

The guards were discovered handcuffed and blindfolded by a cleaning crew at about 8 am (1300 GMT), said a Federal Bureau of Investigation spokesman.

Associate museum curator Karen Haas said the stolen masterpieces were considered to be worth hundreds of millions of dollars.

"The museum is insured but we are doing everything we can to get the word out in hopes of getting these back," Haas told Reuters.

She said the thieves did not damage other art works in the museum, housed in a replica of a Venetian Palazzo.

Gardner was the widow of a 19th century Boston tycoon who devoted her later years to building a collection of old masters and impressionist paintings and Oriental pieces.

"They were people who knew what they wanted and were adept at this type of crime," Boston police spokesman James Jordan said. The guards were not seriously injured during the robbery, authorities said.

List of stolen art:

— Vermeer, *The Concert*, oil on canvas.

— Rembrandt, *A Lady and Gentleman in Black*, oil on canvas.

— Rembrandt, *The Storm on the Sea of Galilee*, oil on canvas.

— Rembrandt, self-portrait etching.

— Govaert Flinck, *Landscape with an Obelisk*, oil on oak panel.

— Manet, *Chezz Tortoni*, oil on canvas.

— Degas, *La Sortie du Pesage*, pencil and watercolour on paper.

— Degas, *Corrège aux Environs de Florence*, pencil and wash on paper.

— Degas, *Three Mounted Jockeys*, black ink with flesh, white, and rose washes, on medium brown paper.

— Degas, *Programme for an Artistic Soirée*, charcoal on white paper.

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**Designers treading water as '90s open**

**PARIS, March 19, (Reuters):** Daunted by the challenge of the 1990s, many fashion designers appear to be resting on their laurels and uncertain of their future direction.

French designer Christian Lacroix' autumn and winter collection yesterday, a typically rich pot-pourri of fabrics, textures and colours, had more than a passing resemblance to his spring and summer offering in October.

The lines between the seasons are beginning to blur, and so is the divide between individually-tailored haute couture and mass-produced ready-to-wear.

Most of Lacroix' pre-a-portal now looks ornate enough to have priced itself out of the mass market.

Jewelled tassels swung from Spanish hats, gold shone from necklaces, earrings, brooches and boots, coloured stones were sewn into hats and handbags and tweed jackets were woven with glitter threads or worn with sparkling designs.

A velvet jacket with a provincial print was sewn over highland tartan slacks, and shawls and capes were lined with "Wild West" fringes in a collection the stylist described as suited to the nomads of modern life.

Lacroix has lost none of his daring feel for colours, successfully combining a bright fuchsia jacket with a red velvet hood and rust-coloured suede boots.

But the end result was too rich for many tastes and some of the strongest outfits were the simplest—tight black leggings worn under a little trapezium jacket in

Lacroix' signature pink or a clinging harlequin cat-suit of multicoloured lozenges.

The pink cropped up again with Italian designer Enrico Coveri, who has clearly decided this winter will be a riot of colour—fuchsia, terracotta, orange, pink, mauve, yellow—anything but black.

Coveri's collection was a tribute to the 1960s. Models with cindy-doll hair styles swung onto the catwalk in sleeveless mini dresses, belted low at the hips and draped with gold-chained medallions.

Coveri, who drew an audience of Italian personalities which included film star Monica Vitti, also showed his versions of the house's cape coats, quilted wraps and suede and high suede boots currently in vogue.

Japanese designer Issey Miyake spent very little time on wearable clothes on Saturday before launching into an obsessive tale of pleats, pleats and more pleats.

After a "deconstructivist" line where he pulled trouser suits apart and attached the remaining pieces of lapel and torso together with braces, Miyake indulged in his favourite hobby—creating works of art out of intricate ruffs and tucks.

Material fell in drapes from the shoulders of trench coats where the collars fanned out into a complex pattern of folds and waves. Pleats concertina'd into pear-shaped balloon dresses or were spiked for sharp-edged minis.

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## INTERNATIONAL

## Ligachev ridicules Gorby policies

MOSCOW, March 19, (UPI): Politburo hardliner Yegor Ligachev ridiculed Mikhail Gorbachev's agricultural plans for private homesteads, his concept of a common civilisation in Europe and his reform of the party, the Pravda newspaper said yesterday.

Ligachev's speech at the Central Committee plenum last week, published by the daily Communist Party newspaper, was his most forceful and bitter criticism of the Soviet President's policies seen in print in the country.

He said creating the post of president of the Soviet Union was necessary "but by

itself the post will not bring the country out of its deep crisis. This can be done only by the Communist Party and the Soviets (republican parliaments and city councils)."

Ligachev also said he fully supported the Congress of People's Deputies resolution that Lithuania's declaring independence was illegal and invalid.

He said that Gorbachev's plans for private farming would not feed the nation in 10 years, that socialism was being sacrificed in Eastern Europe making NATO stronger and that the ruling Communist

Party was being transformed into a social democratic body.

Ligachev, now in charge of agriculture, said the countryside needs material and financial infusions not laws about leaving the collective farms to set up private homesteads.

"The countryside is so technically and socially backward, and the material base for preserving and processing agricultural products has been so neglected that without significant increases in financial help and deliveries of farming material, there can be no talk of a sufficiency of food products for five to 10 years," he said.

"But there are those who say, let us give the peasants the land, let us make them masters of the land and everything will start to take off," he said.

"I also want the peasants to be the masters of their land, but to put it simply, a pitchfork and a shovel, are just not enough to feed the country."

He also said that certain forces were using the slogans of perestroika to turn the Communist Party into a Social Democratic Party, to introduce private property and restore capitalist production, all the time pointing to Eastern Europe's example.

## Challenge to Maggie inevitable: Tory critics

LONDON, March 19, (Reuters): Conservative critics of embattled Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher warned yesterday that a renewed challenge to her leadership looked inevitable in the autumn.

The warning came hours after Thatcher launched a counter-attack on dissenting voices within her Conservative Party and vowed to fight on as leader to win a fourth successive general election victory.

A former government minister, who asked not to be identified, told Britain's Press Association news agency that a leadership battle was "almost inevitable" this autumn if the government's problems did not ease.

Right-wing Conservative Member of Parliament Terry Dicks called on Thatcher to quit "sooner rather than later and certainly before a general election."

Thatcher and the Conservative Party, in power since 1979, are losing support because of unpopular economic policies, reforms to the state-run National Health Service and high inflation and interest rates.

A new local tax to be introduced next month has sparked nationwide protests that have often degenerated into near-riots.

Tomorrow Chancellor of the Exchequer John Major will unveil an annual budget seen as crucial for the government's future prospects.

Opinion polls this weekend indicated that the Conservatives were heading for their worst by-election defeat in more than half a century in their formerly safe seat of Mid-Staffordshire on Thursday.

A survey in the Independent on Sunday said 56 per cent of those questioned would vote for the opposition Labour Party and 28 per cent for the Conservatives.

Thatcher pledged yesterday to fight hard to win the next election, which she must call before mid-1992, but admitted it would be a tough battle.

"We have the best direction, the best vision and the capacity to stick to our guns," Thatcher told the Sunday Express newspaper.

"I have always found elections tough. I never assumed that we would win," she said. "We fight every inch of the way."

She dismissed rumours of a plot against her by a dissident group of Conservative Members of Parliament.

"I do not believe there are many doing that," she said. "The majority have stayed remarkably loyal."

But Conservative parliamentarian Richard Shepherd said on television the party must decide whether the government would be "better served by someone other than Mrs Thatcher."

The Sunday Times said the Conservatives were finalising new internal election rules designed to make a leadership battle more difficult but critics said almost anybody could win enough support to force a challenge.

Former Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine is mounting a thinly-disguised campaign for the future leadership of the party but has said he will not stand against Thatcher.

## Consult EEC before merger, Kohl urged

PARIS, March 19, (Reuters): European Commission President Jacques Delors said today West Germany must consult its European partners before uniting with East Germany.

Delors, speaking on French Radio, also called on Chancellor Helmut Kohl to make a political gesture to confirm West Germany's full involvement in European construction, especially in political unity.

"And the 11 other countries must say if they are ready to participate with West Germany in adapting the East German economy to the benefit of the European Economic Community," he added.

East German conservatives, a coalition heavily backed by Kohl, won their country's first free election on Sunday and set course firmly towards a single German state.

## Soviet army hit by wave of killings

LONDON, March 19, (AP): An unprecedented wave of murders of Soviet military officers claimed 59 victims last year, ranging in rank from lieutenant to general, a military affairs newsletter says.

The newsletter, published today by the respected Jane's Information Group, says the murders "appear to be part of the current move of antipathy felt toward the armed forces, particularly among younger age groups in ethnic regions."

In 1988 two officers were murdered, and in 1987 just one, it said.

The report said last year's victims included Lt. Igor Kholostyakov, stabbed 14 times while returning to his unit one night; Maj. Sergei Komissarov, 37, a research worker in an institute; Capt. Lt. Sergei Zadoyan, 37, a submariner murdered while home on leave; Lt. Col. Vladimir Bazhanov, 38, commander of a road construction battalion, stabbed 12 times.

It said "very few (of the murders) have been solved," and Soviet authorities are disturbed that local law enforcement agencies "are either incapable of or not interested in carrying out any proper line of inquiry."

"In the case of Lt. Kholostyakov, the police official arrived to 'survey the scene,' while his dog promptly fell asleep. That was nine months ago; since then nothing further has been done to bring the murderer(s) to justice," it said.

It said a special section has been set up in the top military prosecutor's office to liaise with local police and law offices, and new security guidelines are being drawn up to protect military personnel.

The reported murders come against a backdrop of rapidly rising crime rates in the Soviet Union. The murders were first brought to public notice in January in a speech by army Gen. Mikhail Moiseev, chief of the general staff, to the Soviet Parliament.

## Soviets begin probe into tank scandal

MOSCOW, March 19, (UPI): Government prosecutors have begun an investigation of a state co-operative that tried to illegally export the latest Soviet battle tanks in a major scandal involving high government figures, the Tass news agency said yesterday.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev promised on Wednesday a quick investigation into the activities of the ANT Co-operative after Premier Nikolai Ryzhkov threatened to resign when a legislator said he signed the papers for the concern.

The scandal originated in late December when the ANT Co-operative standing in Russian for automation, science and technology tried to export a trainload of T-72 battle tanks through the Black Sea port of Novorossiysk, Tass said. The tanks were seized.

Anatoly Sobchak, a Leningrad lawyer and a rising legislative star, linked Ryzhkov's name with the co-operative during a speech at the Congress of People's Deputies that left the normally calm Ryzhkov fuming and threatening to resign.

## Soviet Union leaving Mongolia as it found it — an impoverished orphan

ULAN BATOR, March 19, (Reuters): The Soviet Union is relinquishing its 69-year-old role as Mongolia's debt-mother, but many people here say it is leaving the country as it found it — an impoverished orphan.

Newly formed democratic parties and an emboldened official press have in recent months launched an unprecedented deluge of criticism against Moscow, and the government seems content to let the acrimony continue.

"I do not think it is wrong to criticise (the Soviet Union) since shortcomings in our relations do exist," said Gombo-shavyn Oshirbat in his first news con-

ference last week after being elected general secretary of the Communist Party. The Soviet Red Army marched into a war ravaged and starving Mongolia in 1921. It quickly eradicated all foreign influence, particularly Chinese and Japanese, and nurtured an obedient government loyal to Moscow's command.

Over the next seven decades the Soviet Union built almost all of Mongolia's infrastructure, trained its personnel, supplied loans and grants which remain its economic lifeblood and provided a market for 85 per cent of the landlocked country's exports.

But it also presided over the desecration

of Buddhist monasteries, the killing of top monks, political purges, the suppression of Mongolian culture and the creation of a social system giving resident Soviets privilege denied local people.

"Our relationship is very complicated," said a journalist working for the official Mongolian News Agency. "It is something like the relationship of a cruel stepmother to an orphan she does not like but is forced to keep," said the journalist who did not want to be identified.

Mongolia's role as a buffer between the Soviet Union and China is also less vital now than in the 1960s when Soviet and Chinese troops clashed across their dis-

puted common borders. This vast territory of desert and mountains three times the size of France shares a long southern border with China and is surrounded elsewhere by the Soviet Union.

Last May, China and the Soviet Union repaired a 30-year-old rift, making Mongolia less important to Moscow, diplomats said.

Moscow agreed this month to complete a withdrawal of a total of 65,000 Soviet troops by the end of 1991.

But as the disliked military presence ends, so will Soviet credit and technical assistance.

## War of nerves over Lithuania

## Vilnius delegation arrives in Moscow

MOSCOW, March 19, (Agencies): The Kremlin and the leadership of self-proclaimed independent Lithuania were engaged in a war of nerves ahead of a Moscow deadline today to retract last week's declaration of independence by the Baltic republic.

The Soviet government today denied Lithuania's claims of unusual troop manoeuvres in the Baltic republic and warned foreign countries

against recognising its recent declaration of independence.

The Soviet parliament began consideration of a vital law on secession amid reports from Vilnius that Soviet aircraft buzzed the Lithuanian capital in low-level swoops yesterday and that Soviet Army troops and tanks were on the move in various parts of the republic.

## Nationalists win in Latvia

MOSCOW, March 19, (AP): Latvia's independence-minded People's Front emerged victorious today after the republic's first free elections in 50 years. But initial results showed it failed to achieve a parliament majority needed to press for independence.

Reformists claimed many victories in runoff elections held yesterday in Russia, Byelorussia and the Ukraine, the Slavic heartland that accounts for about 80 per cent of the Soviet Union's territory and two-thirds of its population.

Activists had hoped that yesterday's elections to parliaments in Latvia and Estonia, annexed by the Soviet Union in 1940, would follow the lead of nearby Lithuania and bring independence supporters to power.

Lithuania's parliament was taken over by independence supporters in February and early March elections, and the legislators declared Lithuania independent on March 13. The Soviet Congress declared the move illegal and

President Mikhail Gorbachev on Friday gave the republic three days to respond. He later offered to have talks with the Lithuanians.

A delegation of legislators headed by former Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas arrived in Moscow with a response today, just as the deadline was expiring.

Latvia followed Lithuania and legalised alternative political parties several months ago. No such move was made in Estonia but a variety of parties put forward candidates without interference. The Soviet Congress legalised multiple political parties for the whole country tomorrow.

In Latvia, People's Front supporters won 108 mandates to the 201-seat parliament, a large majority among the 170 legislators elected, according to initial results cited by the Soviet Tass agency.



Gorbachev talks to reporters after casting his ballot in the second round of elections in the Russian federation. (Reuters wirephoto)

years of rising national consciousness under Gorbachev's perestroika reforms. But so far no other government has recognised the proclamation.

Economists say Moscow has a number of ways to put pressure on Lithuania, including its control of communications and the republic's lack of fuel and other raw materials.

Nikolai Medvedev, one of several deputies due to meet Gor-

bachev, said Lithuania could not accept Gorbachev's warning last Friday giving the republic three days to retract its independence declaration.

"We shall ask him once again to start negotiations with us on Lithuanian independence."

Gorbachev, speaking to reporters outside a Moscow polling station, indicated fresh willingness to talk as he did following his inauguration as

executive president last Thursday.

Above all there was no ultimatum," he said, adding that the decision had "surprised many of us, including in Lithuania. Nevertheless, we will hold discussions."

The Postfactum news agency also reported that radical economist Gavril Popov had defeated a district party secretary to secure a council seat.



Protest

Greco-Catholic priests officiating at a Sunday service in Cluj, Romania, in front of the statue of Matthias Rex, thus protesting against their not having a church of their own. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Berlin becomes focus of unity

EAST BERLIN, March 19, (Reuters): Election fever crowds drenched in champagne surged through Berlin as the city celebrated a massive vote in favour of a rapid transition to a united Germany.

Drab East Berlin became a blaze of light somewhat matching affluent West Berlin as people celebrated Sunday's polls drenching ditch their worries and join the West.

Thousands of revellers turned out on a balmy spring night, festivities suggesting that Berlin will regain its role as the hub of a united Germany.

"It was like black and white," leather-jacketed Frank Unger said of the election choice as he returned from a stroll in the West with his girlfriend and a half-empty bottle of wine.

"Things have got to change fast, so there's no point trying to hold on to a social security system we can't pay for," the 29-year-old bricklayer said.

Unger was one of millions of East Germans who voted two to one for the Christian Democrats (CDU) against the Social Democrats (SPD), preferring the conservative path to rapid unity over left-wing caution.

The suede, cashmere and cufflinks of affluent West Germany rubbed shoulders with the acrylics and stone-washed denims of the East of the packed pavements of East Berlin, lit up like a Christmas tree for the event.

"I do not believe there are many doing that," she said. "The majority have stayed remarkably loyal."

But Conservative parliamentarian Richard Shepherd said on television the party must decide whether the government would be "better served by someone other than Mrs Thatcher."

The Sunday Times said the Conservatives were finalising new internal election rules designed to make a leadership battle more difficult but critics said almost anybody could win enough support to force a challenge.

Former Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine is mounting a thinly-disguised campaign for the future leadership of the party but has said he will not stand against Thatcher.

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## Results

EAST BERLIN, March 19, (AP): Following are the final official results of the East German election, with percentage of votes and number of seats in the new 400-member parliament:

Christian Democratic Union	40.91 per cent, 164 seats
Social Democratic Party	21.84 per cent, 87 seats
Party of Democratic Socialism	16.33 per cent, 65 seats
German Social Union	6.32 per cent, 25 seats
Union of Free Democrats, the Liberals	5.28 per cent, 21 seats
Alliance '90 (New Forum, Democracy Now, Initiative Peace and Human Rights)	2.90 per cent, 12 seats
Democratic Farmers' Party	2.19 per cent, nine seats
Greens and Independent Women's Union	1.96 per cent, eight seats
Democratic Awakening	0.92 per cent, four seats
National Democratic Party	0.39 per cent, two seats
Democratic Women's Union	0.33 per cent, one seat
United Left	0.18 per cent, one seat
Alternative Youth List	0.13 per cent, one seat

(West German) mark will solve everything.

"The West German CDU simply overran the country," said his friend Michael Soehngen. "There was something just colonialist, almost imperialist about it."

But they said Berlin has become "a world city again." The people of Leipzig, who launched East Germany's anti-communist revolution with huge street demonstrations, shrug public rejoicing as results roll in from the country's first free election.



East German Prime Minister Hans Modrow (left) and Party for Democratic Socialism leader Gregor Gysi (right) at campaign headquarters. (Reuters wirephoto)





### Good life for few

CUBAN President Fidel Castro has told Brazilians that the capitalist system is only giving the good life to about 20 countries and is not helping the rest of the world.

The Cuban communist leader, whose country is looking more isolated

because of the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe, told a news conference in Sao Paulo on Sunday night: "Capitalism stimulates the worst instincts of mankind."

Castro waves from the balcony of the residence of Luis Inacio Lula de Silva.

# Savage SA black infighting; 24 killed

## Angry mob attacks Zulu chief's home in Natal

JOHANNESBURG, March 19, (AP): At least 24 people were killed in savage fighting between rival black factions, including 15 men who died when the home of a tribal chief was attacked with rifles and grenades, police said today.

A mob attacked a Zulu chief's kraal or home yesterday at Njibokazi near Hammarsdale in Natal and slaughtered many of the inhabitants

Police reported nine other people killed over the weekend, most of them in factional fighting in Natal. Police used shotguns and teargas to disperse a number of protests in black townships in several areas, they said.

The Independent South African Press Association reported at least four people were shot and wounded today in fighting in a black township outside Johannesburg. The news agency said a mob burned down shops belonging to an unpopular black businessman before police dispersed them with tear gas.

More than 300 people have died in South Africa in a wave of mainly black factional violence during the past month. The violence is the worst to hit the country since major riots during the mid-1980s.

The Citizen newspaper reported today that security officials were worried about a possible violent white backlash against the growing black unrest. At least one white has been killed and several injured in recent days after being caught up in black factional fights.

In the Njibokazi incident, local reporters, who asked not to be named, said the chief was a leader of the Inkatha political movement of the Zulu tribe and the attackers were members of the United Democratic Front. Police had no comment on the report.

Some 3,000 people have been killed in Natal in recent years in fighting between the conservative Inkatha movement and the radical UDF. Both movements are anti-apartheid, but differ over the makeup of a future state.

Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi said last night that only security forces can end the fighting in Natal even though political leaders must help ease tension.

Buthelezi said he was ready to meet with African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela and possibly tour areas hit by violence with him to try to end unrest.

Mandela, released last month after 27 years in jail, went to Natal to appeal for an end to the violence last month, but the fighting has not ended.

Mandela and Buthelezi are to meet soon to try and resolve their group's differences. Mandela has blamed the violence on what he says are repressive policies of the white minority government.

Rioting, looting and, in particular, random attacks on whites, are giving the African National Congress a bad name, a black leader told a rally yesterday.

"There is no way in which a riot, the looting of shops... can be understood to advance our struggle, United Democratic Front leader Patril Lekota told an ANC rally in the Indian township of Lenasia, west of Johannesburg.

"There is no way in which the killing of an ordinary white traveller passing the townships... can advance our struggle," Lekota said.

with guns and knives, police said. Two black police officers assigned to guard the chief were among the dead and nine people were wounded, most of them seriously, they said.

The attackers hurled hand grenades and opened fire with an AK-47 assault rifle and other weapons, police said. Inhabitants of the kraal were gunned down as they fled, they said.

## Hurd in South Africa for talks on economy, security

CAPE TOWN, March 19, (Reuters): British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd arrived in South Africa today for a 24-hour visit, the first high-level foreign visitor since President F.W. de Klerk announced sweeping reforms last month.

Hurd is due to meet government and opposition leaders including De Klerk before flying to Namibia for celebrations marking its independence from South Africa.

"I look forward to getting the flavour... seeing for myself something on the ground," Hurd said on arrival.

He was met by South African Foreign Minister P.W. Botha who said South Africa welcomed the first cabinet-level visit from Britain since Sir Geoffrey Howe came to the country in 1986.

"We will exchange ideas on development in Southern Africa as a whole, its economic future and the security

situation," said Botha.

Hurd said Britain was encouraged by apartheid reforms announced by De Klerk in a speech to parliament on Feb 2. "We have worked long and spoken hard for the disposal of apartheid and because of that we were very struck by the bold measures announced by President De Klerk as a step towards that process," he said.

Britain broke ranks with its European Economic Community partners by easing sanctions in response to De Klerk's reforms under which he lifted the ban on the African National Congress and released its leader Nelson Mandela.

Hurd was scheduled to meet De Klerk this afternoon and to give a news conference in the evening. Embassy officials said he would fly to Namibia tomorrow for the midnight independence celebrations.



### Ballet about Indians

Brazil's rich and powerful file into the Teatro Amazonas, a 19th century opera house that was built in the middle of the Amazon jungle by rubber barons. It was recently restored for \$8 million and gave its first performance since 1907 on Saturday with a ballet about Indians. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Voice-activated typewriter unveiled

NEWTON, Massachusetts, March 19, (AP): A new, voice-activated "typewriter" is a science-fiction dream-turned-reality that promises to boost productivity and open a world of opportunity for the handicapped.

The Dragondictate voice-typewriter, which was being formally unveiled today by Dragon Systems Inc., is billed as the first of its kind in the world.

"My only regret is that your product didn't come out 20 years ago," Frank Whitney, a quadriplegic Maryland computer scientist, told the company in a letter written on the system. Whitney has used the system for the past year.

The "typewriter," which consists of software and a speech-recognition circuit board for personal computers, allows users to create memos, manuscripts and other documents by speaking instead of typing. Users speak into a microphone and see text appear on a video screen at the rate of 35 words a minute.

The \$9,000 system can recognise 30,000 words and adapt itself to individual speakers. Until now, voice-activated systems had not been able to recognise more than 5,000 words.

The commands are simple. To turn off the system, one says, "voice console: Go to sleep." To turn it on, the command is "voice console: wake up."

## Bush men divided on cut in defence

WASHINGTON, March 19, (AP): Disagreement inside President George Bush's administration over the future of drastic changes in the Soviet Union is raising new questions about the size of the US defence budget.

CIA director William Webster testified earlier this month that political changes in the Soviet bloc are irreversible, but Defence Secretary Dick Cheney has maintained that Moscow could resume its former confrontational pose.

Treasury Secretary Nicholas S. Brady said yesterday the administration is sticking with Cheney's proposed \$3.2-billion cut in inflation-adjusted defence spending for fiscal 1991 beginning next Oct 1.

But Webster's testimony is one indication of disagreement within the administration, particularly between Cheney and White House budget director Richard Darman, over whether bigger defence cuts might be acceptable.

A senior White House official who refused to allow his name to be quoted by the New York Times yesterday as saying the "irreversibility" of changes in the Soviet Union makes deeper military spending cuts possible.

The newspaper quoted senior administration officials as saying they were willing to acquiesce to total cuts of \$10 billion to \$11 billion, but adding that Cheney was fighting "the emerging consensus" for such cuts.

Such a cut would produce a fiscal 1991 defence budget of \$296 billion to \$297 billion, roughly the same as this year, compared to the \$303-billion spending plan that Bush submitted to Congress in January.

Brady yesterday called the Times story inaccurate, saying, "I've sat in all of these discussions and there has been no talk about a \$10-billion cut."

Meanwhile, Senate budget committee chairman Jim Sasser called for a \$20-billion cut in the military budget or "3 per cent less for defence than what we spent last year."

Boasting the case for further slashes in defence spending was a comment by the House of Representatives Armed Services Committee chairman last week.

Representative Les Aspin said the US military now believes the United States and its allies could fight and hold off the Soviet Union in Europe without resorting to nuclear weapons.

"I look at this net assessment and I say, we win. We can go the other way. Nato wins, the good guys win," Aspin said.

## Floods kill 8, leave 3,500 homeless in Alabama

ELBA, Alabama, March 19, (AP): Two days of flooding across south Alabama left at least 3,500 people homeless and killed eight others by yesterday and one town remained a muddy pond a day after its levee failed.

"I cannot begin to imagine everything that's been lost or damaged," said US Rep. Bill Dickinson after taking a helicopter tour of Elba, where 1,500 people were evacuated after the Pea river levee ruptured Saturday.

Sixteen inches (40 centimetres) of rain had fallen in the area in the two days before the earthen barrier gave way. Water covered all but the tops of first-story windows at the Coffee county courthouse, and the city's three public schools were still submerged.

About 45 miles (72 kilometres) downstream in Geneva, emergency workers shored up another levee and continued evacuating residents, who started leaving their homes Friday night.

Rivers throughout southern Alabama swelled to as much as 21 feet (6.5 metres) above flood levels yesterday as the water from the nearly non-stop rains drained toward the Gulf of Mexico.

A small aftershock of the quake that rocked Upland last month jolted southern Californians awake early yesterday, but no damage or injuries were reported.

The aftershock struck at 5:56 am (13:56 GMT) and measured 3.3 on the Richter scale, said Robert Finn, a spokesman for the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena.

Its epicentre was 3 miles (5 kilometres) northwest of Upland, he said.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Avril loyalists attack:** Machete-wielding supporters of ousted military ruler General Prosper Avril attacked and injured eight nuns at an elite religious school on Sunday, nuns at St. Rose de Lima said. Three of the wounded were French.

"As they were beating us they accused us of being responsible for Avril's departure," one of the nuns said.

Four of the eight nuns were taken to a nearby hospital and one was later released.

Political and diplomatic sources had voiced fears in the past week that the dreaded Tontons Macoute would strike hard to regain the power they feel they lost when Avril resigned on March 10. (Reuters)

**Sought for questioning:** The FBI said Sunday it had arrested the younger of two brothers wanted for questioning in the bombing of a US Drug Enforcement Administration office.

The firebombing of the DEA office early Saturday, which caused \$4 million in damage but no injuries, came two days after the brothers were indicted on drug charges.

John Lewis Gignack, 22, was arrested Sunday morning, said special agent Brian Kensel, spokesman for the FBI team investigating the DEA bombing.

"He is now in the custody of the FBI, but only on the drug charges," Kensel said, declining to give details of the arrest. "There have been no warrants issued in connection with the explosion." (AP)

**Support for Unita rebels:** Soviet-backed Angola condemned the United States on Sunday for "stubbornly" continuing to support rightist rebels fighting its rule and demanded Washington's neutrality in the 15-year-old civil war.

Foreign Minister Pedro de Castro Van-Dunem told his Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze that Angola blamed Washington for helping to fuel the government's war with insurgents of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita).

He told Shevardnadze, in Luanda on the first leg of a 10-day tour of southern Africa, that Angola was seeking international help to repair damage done by guerrillas in recent raids. (Reuters)

**Mauritania mediation:** The leaders of Guinea and Gambia arrived in Nouakchott today for a one-day visit to Mauritania and Senegal as part of mediation efforts to reconcile the two West African neighbours.

General Lansana Conte of Guinea and Gambian President Dawda Jawara made no statement at the airport and went straight into talks with Mauritanian President Maouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya. (Reuters)

**North African identity cards:** Five North African states took one step closer to forming a common market at the weekend when they agreed in principle to introduce common identity cards and relax travel restrictions.

An official statement said interior ministers from the five members of the Arab Maghreb Union — Mauritania, Algeria, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia — met in the Mauritanian capital Nouakchott and urged removal of all obstacles to free movement among them and standardisation of administrative and security procedures. (Reuters)

**Rebels kill captain:** Suspected Muslim secessionist rebels killed a captain and wounded another officer and three other companions in an ambush in the southern Philippines Monday, a military commander said.

Col. Patiyok Macagur, military and police commander of Maguin-danao province, said about 20 rebels ambushed Capt. Julhani Usman and his four companions along a highway in a village of Parang, about 880 kms (550 miles) south of Manila.

Among those wounded were another captain and a corporal, who were on a jeep going back to Usman's base in this southern city after shopping in Cotabato city, 24 kms (15 miles) to the south. (AP)

## Bid to defuse row over fishing

RABAT, March 19, (Reuters): Morocco and the European Community began talks in Rabat today in a bid to defuse a dispute with Spain over fishing rights in Morocco's coastal waters.

A row blew up on March 8 when Spanish fishing fleets began a blockade of southern ports in Spain to protest a tenfold increase in fines imposed by Morocco for fishing violations.

A senior government official said Morocco would not necessarily impose the maximum fines set in January, which range from 625 to \$1 million depending on the gravity of the offence and the size of the vessel involved.

He said Morocco was willing to reach an accommodation and give foreign fleets legal guarantees under the four-year fishing accord signed in 1988 with the EEC.

"We have accepted Spain's request for today's meeting as a token of goodwill," he added.

The agreement allows about 700 boats based in southern Spain and the Canary Islands and 75 from Portugal to operate in Moroccan coastal waters, reputed to be among the richest fishing grounds in the world for sardines, tuna and squid.

### Invasion tunnel

SEOUL, March 19, (AP): South Korean defence officials said today they believed a tunnel recently discovered under the border between South and North Korea was maintained by the North Koreans until recently.

South Korean troops, assisted by US military engineers, unearthed a large tunnel inside the demilitarised zone dividing the two Koreas in an eastern sector of the Korean front line on March 3.

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## Mugabe accuses rival leader Tekere of plotting assassinations

HARARE, March 19, (AP): President Robert Mugabe yesterday accused his only challenger in upcoming elections of plotting to assassinate political leaders.

"You are playing with fire, my boy," Mugabe, 66, said of Edgar Tekere, his former confidante and co-founder of the ruling party.

Mugabe made the charge in an address to 40,000 supporters in the eastern frontier city of Mutema, Tekere's traditional tribal stronghold.

He did not elaborate on Tekere's alleged plot. Tekere, 52, was fired from the Zimbabwe African National Union (Patriotic Front) in

1988 after alleging wide-spread top-level corruption. He formed the opposition Zimbabwe Unity Movement a year ago.

The ZUM leader laughed when told of Mugabe's remarks, according to a spokesman for Tekere, who declined to be identified.

"He was quite flattered that this gross line was told," the spokesman said. "It indicated the president and his party are worried about ZUM."

Tekere is to run against Mugabe in presidential and parliamentary elections set for March 28-29.

It will be the first challenge to Mugabe since he led the fight for independence that changed white-ruled Rhodesia to black-governed Zimbabwe on April 19, 1980.

Mugabe is expected to win the election. Five other parties vying for seats in the 150-member parliament are given little chance of gaining a significant number of seats.

Tekere's ZUM is expected to win some of the 111 seats being contested. Of the other 39, the ruling party will fill nine. Mugabe will fill 12, and 18 go to tribal chiefs and provincial governors.

Tekere helped Mugabe form the Zanu (PF) in 1963 and was third-in-command as secretary-general. He has campaigned against corruption and what he calls fascist socialist programmes.

He also has opposed Mugabe's 10-year-old goal of making Zimbabwe — one of Africa's few Western-style democracies — a one-party state.

"That system has failed in Eastern Europe and everywhere else," Tekere has said, "and it simply hasn't worked here. People are poorer than they were under white rule."



## KUWAIT ... GULF

## Banks abandon unified dollar rate

## Central Bank criticises 'Cartel Operation'

LOCAL banks have suspended dealing in the existing dollar selling rates and switched over to the independent pricing system employed by each bank separately.

Quoting local bankers, a daily said that bank officials had decided to cancel the unified price following the infusion of local exchange companies with hard currencies by the Central Bank. This infusion of funds enabled these companies to compete

with banks in pricing the dollar and has started a chain reaction among local banks violating the unified pricing agreement.

**Opportunity**  
Commenting on the issue, the Governor of the Central Bank, Sheikh Salem Abdul Aziz Al Sabah said that he was dissatisfied with the agreement reached by the local banks and described their move as "a Cartel Operation". However, the official

stressed that the bank is capable of dealing with the situation in an effective manner.

Money exchangers at local companies said that they will return to purchasing dollars from the local banks despite the opportunity to obtain dollars from the Central Bank.

The bankers said that the cancellation of the unified rate price would result in banks making less profits from dollar selling

operations, as the banks purchased this hard currency from the Central Bank and sold it to their clients at a marginal profit defined as equalling KD 4 for every \$10,000.

They added that the profit margin would drop to KD 2 for each \$10,000 on the average and might sink deeper if competition grew stronger to reach a projected price of KD0.500.

## Functional overlapping still a dilemma

By Hussain Salamah

THE Assistant Undersecretary for Public Domains Affairs at Kuwait Ministry of Finance Abdulhameed Hussain has described the issue of sorting out the existing overlapping among the ministries and government institutions as a dilemma, but it could be solved.

In an interview with Al-Sayyid, Hussain was quoted as saying that by mutual understanding all the problems will be settled particularly through the revision of some legislation, laws and some administrative procedures.

## Chalets

Meanwhile, the official was quoted as expecting that the chalets at Buhayyan Area will total over 2,560 and commented that the project will represent the ideal utilisation of the land for recreational purposes.

He disclosed that though the area of each chalet had been defined randomly, the project upon its completion will constitute an ideal one in the southern area of the country.

He clarified that the area of some chalets had amounted to 10,000 square metres while others were not less than 1,000 square metres. He added that the chalets will be of different designs and will be provided with all the necessary facilities including super market, shops, mosque and medical clinic.

## Overlapping

Replying to a question over the results of the sorting out of the overlapping among the ministries, the official said that the Cabinet is paying serious concern to this issue and the Civil Service Commission is keenly following up this issue. The official disclosed that the CSC has formed a working team to work within a specified plan. He said that the sorting out of the overlapping and the administrative development should be carried out simultaneously and each issue should not be handled separately. He clarified that the sorting out process requires administrative development to achieve its purposes.

## Meetings

Speaking on the sorting out of the existing overlapping between the Ministry of Finance and the other authorities such as Kuwait Municipality, Planning Ministry and Civil Service Commission, the official said several meetings in this connection were being held to achieve this goal.

He added that the meeting was striving to reach practical results in favour of the citizens and in the meantime to cause no confusion among the relevant authorities.



Fahaheel club board

Kuwait's Minister of Interior Sheikh Salem Al Sabah received at his office yesterday the chairman of Fahaheel Sporting Club, Colonel Abdullah Adas who introduced to him the new board of directors of the club.

The Minister welcomed the chairman of the club and the accompanying delegation. Sheikh Salem was presented a commemorative shield in appreciation of his persistent efforts in supporting sports and sportsmen.

## Spinsterhood phenomenon

## Marriage eludes Palestinian girls in Kuwait: survey

LATE marriages among females is almost common in certain types of societies. The word spinster seems to have a sharp impact on the minds of females all over the world.

The spinsterhood phenomenon deserves more attention from us. Here we shed light on spinsterhood among Palestinian females residing in Kuwait. The phenomenon is yet considered a new trend for this community which prefers early marriages for females. What is the age limit when a woman is called a spinster? And what are the causes? who is responsible? the family, males or females... Or is it circumstances which the Palestinian community is currently passing through.

The view of Palestinians vary on the age limit in which a female is considered a spinster. Opinions range between considering a female a spinster above the age of 25 years to 30 years.

In this survey, several interviews were conducted with a number of Palestinians residing in Kuwait. Husni Ali Tahha indicated that he considers a female as a spinster when she reaches the age of 30. At the same time, he does not think that there are many Palestinian females above this age and still

unmarried.

Many Palestinians indicated that one of the main reasons leading to spinsterhood, among females was due to the disinclination of males towards marriage as a result of their poor financial conditions. Mahmoud Abdul Kareem stated that the increase in rents and the low standard of Palestinian employees salaries who are mostly appointed at the sixth or fifth grade in addition to other household expenses led male youth towards thinking that marriage is unattractive.

On the other hand, engineer Atef Ismael said that the increase in house rents cannot be a direct cause behind spinsterhood among Palestinian females. He added that this may cause a delay in marriage. He said that he will eventually get married when he is capable of paying house rents, at that time he will select a young female.

Ali Attah's fiancée indicated that the low salaries paid to employees will stand as an obstacle to marriage. In this situation, a male youth would think twice about getting married thinking in advance that he will have to pay private fees for his children in addition to house rent and other expenses.

Engineer Mohammed Kaloosh stated that continuing

education in foreign countries and not giving youth the chance for academic education inside Kuwait was the main cause of the spinsterhood phenomenon. He added that most Palestinian youths tend to marry foreign females in the country where they are educated in order to obtain privileges of that country. He pointed out that a larger share of Palestinian males represent this group which eventually leads to spinsterhood among females.

## Education

Um Sadeq on the other hand indicated that continuing education in foreign countries is not the problem but, the bigger problem lies in not giving educated Palestinians the opportunity for equal employment in Kuwait after they return. This case was also the same for other Arab countries which forces youth to settle in foreign countries.

Alfiera Qasem said that the Palestinian population does not have a unified thinking towards the Palestinian cause adding that many families refuse marrying their daughters to well-established Palestinian males who live outside Kuwait. She stressed that a big share of Palestinian females pay vital importance to education and employment and will insist on obtaining it even if it meant spinsterhood.

## National exports drop, say experts

A MEETING of Arab experts was opened at the Arab Planning Institute (API) based in Kuwait to discuss the developing of Arab exports. Dr Mohammed Said Abdul Aziz from Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry submitted a work paper to the meeting about Arab policies to develop the commercial exchange among Arab countries and the role of Arab trade in developing the agricultural and industrial production in the Arab countries and also focused on the present situation of Arab commerce. The paper showed that Arab commerce accounts for 88 per cent of Arab local production during 1970s but retreated to 60.9 per cent in 1987 due to the drop in oil exports and retreat of imports of many Arab countries because of increasing debts.

## Exports

It added that growth rate of Arab commerce was 4.3 per cent between 1974 and 1987 against 1.7 per cent for exports and 9.5 per cent for imports. Accordingly the position of Arab commerce has changed in the international commerce when Arab exports reduced from 10 per cent (out of total commerce) in 1974 to 4.1 per cent in 1987 while imports increased from 3.6 per cent in 1974 to 4 per cent in 1987. The commerce among Arab countries reached 6.9 per cent of total Arab commerce between 1974 and 1987. The paper added that local production of the Arab countries met 35.4 per cent of total needs of Arab countries in 1985 and increased to 44.2 per cent in 1987. It said that Arab states are still depending on foreign countries in meeting their needs for food although agricultural products reached 11.6 per cent of local production in 1987. The Arab countries succeeded to meet 73 per cent of their needs for foodstuffs in 1986.

Dr Abdul Aziz said in his paper that all Arab foodstuffs that are produced are being marketed in Arab countries while most raw materials are exported to foreign countries.

## Second Kuwaiti company falls victim to fraud

FOR the second time in Kuwait, a local company has become the victim of fraud practised by an elusive German company, a local daily reported.

According to sources, the local company had concluded a contract with the German firm to supply about 1,500 tons of resin materials at a total value of US\$1.275 million.

However, on arrival of the consignment, it was ascertained that it contained only table salt.

A near identical case was reported last Saturday when the same German company had supplied a consignment of earth to a local firm against the payment of US\$850,000.

In the present instance, the local firm had called upon its bankers not to release payment against their L.C. as after reading the first case details they suspected the bonafides of the German firm. But, the bankers could not comply as the payment had already been released.

Meanwhile, the daily reported that the German company is alleged to be run by a citizen from the region.

## 22 suffer Aids after transplant ops

## Get treatment here: Abuna

By Nashed Al Agtha

A TOTAL of 22 citizens from Arab Gulf states have been infected with Aids after having undergone kidney transplants in India and some countries in the Far East.

Citing these statistics, Dr George Abuna, director of Hamed Al Essa Organs Transplant Centre and present chairman of the Middle East Organs Transplant Society said that Arab organs transplant centres have successfully undertaken numerous transplant operations and patients are not obliged to go to these countries that are infected with Aids.

Abuna appealed to officials of the Ministry of Public Health to monitor the activities of physicians and directors of hospitals who do not perform their duties ethically and also do not abide by the ministerial decisions formulated to organise the transplant of organs in Kuwait.

Meanwhile, the assistant dean at the Faculty of Academic Sciences, Dr Raed Shaker stressed the need for finding ways and means of increasing the supply of human organs for transplant

operations.

Speaking to a symposium sponsored by the Roads Safety Society, the official said that the human brain is the organ responsible for co-ordinating all other functions of the human body and would cease to function if it failed to get continuous blood supply for more than three minutes.

He pointed out that medical authorities had since 1985 successfully persuaded the families of seven dead patients to permit doctors to use organs of their deceased relatives and has obtained 14 donated kidneys. He underscored the fact that no doctor would undertake to remove an organ from a deceased until the family blesses this move. He added that families are perfectly free to agree or disagree to such removal of organs.

Shaker said that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has successfully performed transplant surgeries over the last year and convinced 90 people to donate their organs. These acts of benevolence have contributed to saving the lives of many patients suffering from the failure of their organs. The crux of the problem lies in approaching family members of the deceased who are in grief to agree

to use organs of the deceased.

He said that legal advice issued by the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs approved the use of a dead man's organs to save the life of another patient in cases of emergency and in line with the concept of social security and that the living are better than the dead.

He added that Kuwait comes first in the field of transplant surgery, adding that a special legislation had been issued and endorsed to regulate this field of human nature. Under this law, donors will write a will consenting to part with their organs at their deaths and the will is signed by the donor in the presence of two legally qualified witnesses.

He also said that donors could always rescind their will at any point of time and that they should not do that in return for financial gains.

He stressed that in case of people whose identity could not be established after death, the ruler's consent would replace the dead man's family's, adding that transplants among the living were also permitted under this law with the conditional approval of the Ministry of Health.

## Crime file

## 15 years for live-in violation

THE Criminal Court sentenced a man to 15 years in jail for luring a girl under 21 years of age to leave the residence of her parents and live with him illegally.

The court heard that the accused who is married had proposed to the girl, but the family of the girl had refused his offer. Consequently, he took the girl to stay with him and had illegal sex.

The court turned down his plea for marriage and considered his act to be in violation of the country's traditions and customs. SECURITY authorities are investigating the attempted rape of a 22 year old girl near her residence situated in Al Sulaybiyah Area, a local daily reported.

According to reports, three youths driving a white coloured Caprice car, sprayed the girl with a narcotic spray and attempted to rape her. However, her frantic screams were heard by a passerby who came to her rescue. The victim who was found to be in a coma was rushed to the hospital and is now under medical treatment.

THE CRIMINAL Court sentenced a man charged with possession and trading in narcotics to four years in jail with hard labour, a fine of KD4,000 and a customs fine of KD10.

The court was told that a security officer posing as a customer successfully managed to purchase five rolls of hashish from the accused on payment of KD300.

On completion of the transaction, the suspect was apprehended. A search of his residence revealed 35 tablets of keptagon, 12 others of a different kind, plus one roll of hashish.

The court disbelieved the plea of the defendant that he was a patient under treatment at the Psychiatric Disease Hospital and that the contraband was for his personal use.

A ROAD block led to the arrest of an Egyptian national for possession of 113 liquor bottles inside his car.

The suspect denied knowledge of what was in the bags and said that an acquaintance asked him to move these bags telling him they contained samples of rock.

The suspect and contraband have been referred to the local headquarters in Sulaybiyah.

## Glimpses of Bahrain by Sri Lankan

GLIMPSES of Bahrain a solo art exhibition of water-colour by Sri Lankan artist Lissa Hewavitirne turned out to become one of the most successful art exhibitions to be held in the island in recent times, thereby reaffirming the country's growing reputation as an artistic and cultural centre in the region.

The exhibition, which just concluded at the Gulf Hotel, received extensive media publicity here followed by record attendance by both local residents and overseas visitors. A total of 84 works depicting Bahrain's rich heritage and culture drawn from both present and past scenes of the island nation were on display during the five-day exhibition.

On the first day of the event, which was held under the patronage of Bahrain's Ministry of Information, a record 34 paintings were sold within hours of the opening. A total of 76 paintings were sold at the end of the exhibition, while 41 orders were received for reproduction of originals. The event generated tremendous interest and enthusiasm among art connoisseurs. Critics and buyers alike were impressed with the rich collection of works offering a cornucopia of Bahrain's natural beauty and of course its people from all walks of life.

## Muslim scholars to lecture during Ramadan

THE undersecretary of Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Mohammed Naser Al Hamdhan has said that the ministry has invited a number of Muslim scholars to lecture on different Islamic topics during the Holy Month of Ramadan. He added that six scholars from Egypt, Syria and Sudan have agreed to participate and the ministry has also invited professors at the faculty of Sharia and Islamic Studies of Kuwait University to take part in these lectures. The ministry agreed with the faculty on a programme that includes seminars on children, youth and leisure time and a seminar about youths, morals and women. The scholars working in the ministry will also lecture during Ramadan, he said.

Hamdhan pointed out that the ministry's plan in building mosques copes with the general plan of the state. The plan is based on the expansion of housing areas or the establishment of new areas and said that the ministry builds 25 to 30 new mosques every year. These mosques are built from public money or from contributions of wealthy citizens. He added that there are about 800 mosques in Kuwait now which are expected to be increased to 1000 mosques at the end of this century.

The ministry also rebuilds the old mosques or expands them because of increasing number of people in Kuwait. We also build special places and wards for women at the mosques, external toilets and covering the open yards of mosques. He added that most Imams of mosques are Arabs, specially from Egypt. There are 600 Imams working full time at these mosques, he said.

Hamdhan pointed out that the ministry opened about 20 centres to teach sciences of Holy Quran. He added that 6948 students are studying in these centres. The male centres are 11 and 2409 students are studying while women centres total 9 that serve 4539 women. These centres cover all areas in Kuwait including Failaka Island. More centres are planned for the future, he said.



## Pond's skin care

POND'S the internationally renowned skincare experts, are introducing their "2-step Skincare Regime" which promises a beautiful, soft and radiant complexion.

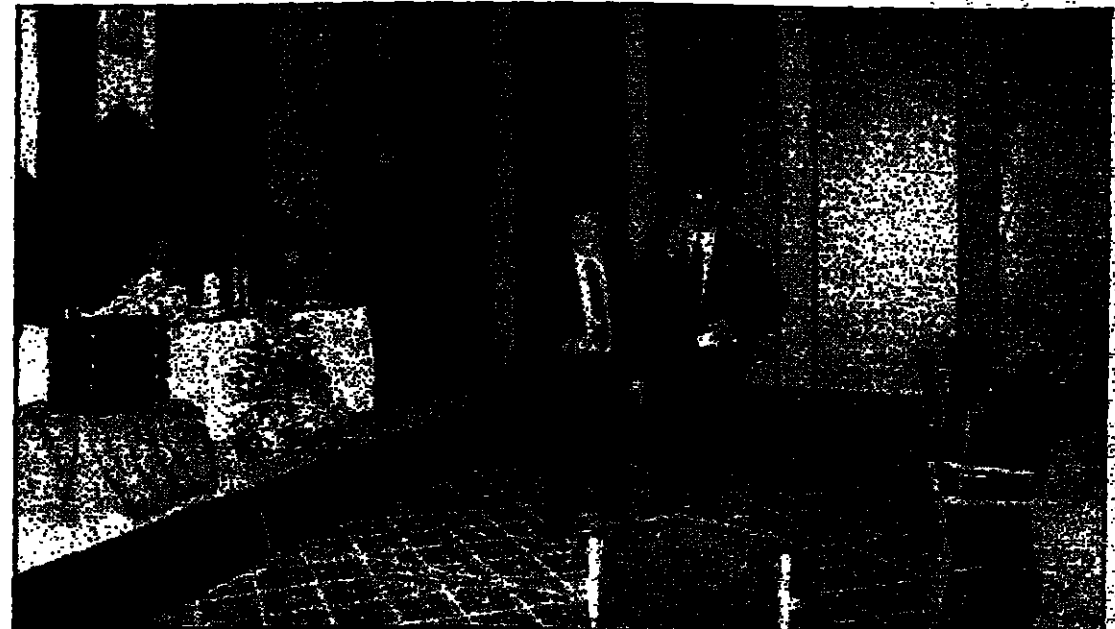
The Pond's "2-step Skincare Regime" is an easy to use, daily routine of deep cleansing followed by the application of special beauty cream suited to your skin type. Two steps designed to work together bringing radiance to your complexion.

The range of 3 beauty creams comprise: Pond's Nourishing Cream - a rich moisturiser for dry complexions which also helps reduce dry lines; Pond's Light Moisturiser for normal complexions,

which protects the complexion against the drying effects formulated for oily skin types. It actually absorbs the skin's excess oils throughout the day, reducing shine and providing a matt base for make-up.

The range is attractively packaged to look good on your dressing room table and every pack carries full instructions for use - in Arabic and English.

Thani Murshid Sons & African and Eastern Ltd, distributors of Pond's in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi have introduced the Pond's Skin Care Regime at a colourful function held for the beauticians and the trade separately on 11th February 1990, which was well attended.



## Philips dealers meet

Philips Consumers Electronics dealers attended a sales conference at Kuwait International Hotel last night for the launching the new range of Philips audio and video products in the region.

The conference was hosted by Philips distributor Yousuf Ahmed Al Ghanim and attended by over 200 electrical retailers from this area. The principal address was given by Ming Fook Seng, general manager, consumers products division of Philips Singapore, and the dealers also heard details of the comprehensive regional advertising and promotional campaign from Memac.

In his address to the dealers Ming Fook Seng said: 'Philips believes in the Gulf. With our world-wide service centres, advanced products and after-sales

warranty applicable in all Gulf states, India and Pakistan we are showing commitment to your market and all the support you need. Philips the market leader in consumer electronics in Europe and in many countries in the world, is determined to capture a bigger market share in this region.'

The products presented included the latest range of colour televisions and video cassette recorders, home audio systems, portable radios and radio cassette recorders.

Philips is one of the largest and longest-established electronics companies in the world. Philips will be celebrating its '100 years anniversary' in 1991. Among its famous inventions are the audio cassette, the video cassette recorders and compact disc technology.



# Care of handicapped in Kuwait lauded

## Tunisian minister expresses admiration

KUWAIT, March 19, (Kuna): Tunisian State Minister for Social Affairs Dr. Nabih Qadana conferred here today with Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed.

The Tunisian official had earlier met with the ministry's undersecretary Issa Yassin with senior officials of both sides attending the two meetings.

Dr Qadana described talks during the two meetings, in a statement to Kuna, as "fruitful and beneficial," and added that

Sheikh Nasser had conveyed to her the concern of HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Premier over bolstering co-operation with Tunisia in all spheres.

### Experiment

She noted that the talks tackled exchanging expertise and experts in social care and catering for the handicapped and elderly through exchanging visits of specialists.

The minister praised the Kuwaiti experiment in catering for the handicapped, describing it as a model to be followed and expressed readiness to supply Kuwait with competent Tunisian cadres in social care in general.

She affirmed identical views of both ministries on maintaining contacts to elevate social and women activities and underlined that women in Tunisia had covered major strides in assuming leading responsibility in numerous spheres.

Dr Qadana expressed admiration of the Kuwaiti women's activity and efforts by concerned parties topped by the social affairs and labour ministry in social and co-operative fields.

She hoped that her visit would result in mutual benefit for women in the two countries and in the Arab world as a whole.

Qadana had stated on arrival here last night that her country greatly appreciated Kuwait's solidarity stance during the recent floods that swept Tunisia.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Amir receives

KUWAIT, March 19, (Kuna): HH the Amir today received head of the Audit Bureau Fares Abdul Rahman Al Wagan, who presented HH with the bureau's final account statement of the state's financial administration for the 1988-89 fiscal year.

HH praised the important role played by the bureau in preserving national wealth.

### Premier receives

KUWAIT, March 19, (Kuna): HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah today received Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed and of Justice and Legal Affairs Dhari Al Othman.

HH Sheikh Saad also received Kuwait's Ambassador to Egypt Abul Razzaq Al Kandari and board chairman and members of the Kuwait Teachers Society.

He also received a number of citizens and representatives of private societies and diwanias.

### Unesco cable

KUWAIT, March 19, (Kuna): HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah today received a cable from the Secretary General of the Kuwaiti National Committee for Unesco Suleiman Al Onazi, in which he extended gratitude for HH on Kuwait's hosting of a computer training workshop, sponsored by the organisation and the National Committee for Education, Science and Culture.

In a reply cable, Sheikh Saad thanked Onazi for his kind sentiments and hoped for more of these educational gatherings.

### Muslim committee

KUWAIT, March 19, (Kuna): Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Sabah today received secretary-general of the Africa Muslim Committee Abdul Rahman Al Sumait, who briefed the minister on the committee's activities in Africa.

Sheikh Jaber also received Chairwoman of the Palestinian Women's Union Siham Al Dabagh and member of the Child and Woman Committee in the occupied territories Safaa Al Saqr.

### Education seminars

KUWAIT, March 19, (Kuna): Two specialised educational seminars continued today deliberations on means of developing curricula in the Arab Gulf countries.

Experts on English language syllabuses continued their debates on unifying and developing the English language books at various school grades.

Another seminar continued discussing possibility of unifying the science of curriculums in the Arab Gulf countries' secondary stage.

### Intentions doubted

KUWAIT, March 19, (Kuna): A Kuwaiti daily today doubted intentions of the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev concerning the Soviet Jews immigration to occupied Palestine.

A local Arabic daily in its front page editorial said that since the great Arab revolution the Arabs have always trusted the super powers be it London, Paris, Washington or Moscow but at the end "we received a stab in the back."

The paper questioned the aim of the Soviet Jews influx to occupied Palestine, especially such a great number of Soviet Jews leaving at a time when Israel itself barely has "bread, oil and oranges."

"In the Soviet Union these people have food, not a great amount but sufficient," the paper said, adding that they also have homes and opportunity for education. Can Israel provide all this," the paper questioned.

## Car for Sale

Embassy Mercedes  
200 manual, model  
1986, 80,000 kms,  
excellent condition.  
KD 4250/-  
Contact: 2510355/6  
— between 8 am and  
12 noon.



Students at traffic department

A student delegation from Khaldiya and Sulabiya Primary Schools for Boys visited the General Traffic Department in order to get acquainted with different sections and the nature of their activities. The student delegation also visited the permanent traffic exhibit where they looked at the previous features of the General Traffic Department and the developments made during the past three decades.

## Expat investment will support market: Rashid

### Better economy forecast

THE chairman and managing director of Bank of Kuwait and Middle East (BKME) Ali Al Rashid was quoted as saying that the bank's policy aims at concentrating on the spread of conventional and developed banking services in the local market to coincide with the increase in the bank's local and foreign investment services and expanding the base of its international operations by developing its investment portfolios.

In an interview with a local daily, the official said that the bank management is striving to increase its annual income which eventually will reflect on the shareholders' rights.

He was quoted as expecting that the national economy will restore its activities during the current decade and attributed this prospect to the expected improvement in oil prices in the international market in addition to the political stability in the region and the overcoming of the effects of the Iraq-Iran war.

To achieve the targeted goals, a balanced and realistic economic policy must be set up the official said and added that this could be realised through drawing up of the necessary plans aimed at supporting Kuwait as a developed and effective financial centre which should realise the ultimate utilisation of national resources.

### Observers

Replying to a question, the official said that a lot of financial observers were in agreement that investment funds were playing a main role in investment activities in international bourses.

He clarified that this system could gain importance in a country like Kuwait where expatriates represent the majority in the total population. Unfortunately, he said this majority was not allowed to participate in the investment operation. He added that the provision of the necessary opportunities of investments for expatriates through investment funds will definitely support the

market and help finance local development projects. He clarified that the proposed funds will provide the necessary liquidity, which could be sufficient for local investment operations and this will encourage local investors to seek the necessary finance required for their projects.

He hoped that the law organising the activities of these funds will be enacted soon, adding that an official control on its activities should be imposed.

Replied to a question whether the Central Bank shall allow local banks to distribute bonus shares or not, the official said that this issue fell within the duties of the board of directors of the local banks and in the framework of the general policy set up by the Central Bank.

He clarified, however, that the distribution of bonus shares was connected in general with several objectives such as the increasing of relevant banks capitals and improving of the market value of the shareholders' investments which shall eventually increase the share prices.

He commented that the distribution of bonus shares will prevent the retreat of local banks share prices.

### Risks

On the description that the Kuwaiti banks were now exposed to more risks, the official categorically denied this rumour, clarifying that Kuwaiti banks have never been considered within high risk. He added, conversely, the local banks were enjoying an international reputation and were deemed as the best regional banks. He pointed out that Kuwait's bank guarantees and letters of credits were entertained everywhere, adding that Kuwaiti banks were sole banks throughout the world that had been guaranteed by the state.

He pointed out that EEC countries had recently classified banks working in Europe and had suggested two groups of

banks in the world the first of which groups EEC countries, USA, Japan and Saudi Arabia while the second groups the other countries including Kuwait, clarifying that such a classification had been exposed to several technical criticisms, adding, that this classification will be subject to some revisions before the final endorsement by the authorities concerned in Europe.

### Workforce

Commenting on the Central Bank's support to be extended to the local banks he said it will be conditioned by the increase of the national workforce in these banks. Local banks are keen to develop their activities and operations as well as the upgrading of its technical apparatuses, referring that the national workforce constitutes a major role in the banks activities.

He clarified, that the local banks have done their part to develop national cadres and to increase the Kuwaiti employees percentage in the local banks. The state represented by the Central Bank is paying special concern to this vital issue and is striving to surmount any obstacle that may impede the implementation of this policy.

Meanwhile, the official has expected that the state will continue its support to the local banks through the support of the Banking Studies Institute to help increase the number of national graduates qualified to work in the banking sector.

Evaluating, the bourse activities, the official commented that it is reflected trends and expectations of investors as well as the positions of the companies registered in the stock market, clarifying that the volume of the activities is connected with such trends and the positions of these companies.

He added, recently it has been noticed that most of the shares prices in the bourse were stable and only a few share prices had retreated.

## Border posts equipped to nab smugglers, says Ghanim

By Hussain Salamah

KUWAIT will shortly apply to join the International Customs Co-operation Council based in Brussels. This was confirmed yesterday by the director-general of the Public Customs Authority, Ibrahim Al Ghanim.

Ghanim said that Kuwait will greatly benefit if it joined the International Customs Council as Kuwaiti customs men will be allowed to participate in important training courses held by the international organisation. He added that Kuwaiti customs men will also gain good experience in the field of combating drug smuggling through joining the international body. Ghanim said that the application with all necessary documents will be submitted to the Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed to submit the application to the International Customs Co-operation Council.

Ghanim said that the border customs posts are now well equipped to confront drug smuggling and other forms of smuggling. He said that concentration is now directed at drug smuggling and trading in order to prevent the young generation from its risks. He stressed that this does not mean that the customs department will ignore other forms of smuggling like arms, liquor and others.

### Border posts

Ghanim said that the designs for the new border posts have been already approved. He said that the border posts to be established in Abdali, Salmi and Nuwaiseeb, the only border exits of Kuwait, will be the most modern in the world. He said that trucks carrying commodities and goods won't be allowed to enter Kuwait after completing the construction of the border posts. He said that this will activate the transportation movement in Kuwait, protect imported food materials from being spoilt, restricting to a great extent the smuggling operations, particularly drug smuggling.

Ghanim added that construction in the new border posts will begin this year. They will greatly facilitate the movement of passengers from and to Kuwait. Latest technological equipment, including computers will be supplied to the centres. Huge warehouses to store all kinds of imports will also be constructed at all the three centres.

### MOH appointments

THE Ministry of Health is considering appointing all trainee pharmacists presently working at the ministry's health centres and hospitals as full time employees.

Quoting medical sources at the ministry, a local daily said that the ministry has suspended the appointment of pharmacists under the item on remunerations in response to instructions from the Civil Service Commission.

Sources added that the issue has received the support from the minister himself and a meeting will be held within the coming few days to discuss the full fledged appointment of these trainee pharmacists.

### UAE — China

SHARJAH, March 19, (Kuna): The visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen met here yesterday with the member of the UAE Supreme Council, Ruler of Sharjah Sheikh Sultan Bin Mohammed Al Qasimi.



Farewell to UAE envoy

Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah received yesterday the UAE ambassador to Kuwait, Youssef Al Sarkal. The ambassador bid farewell to Sheikh Salem at the end of his tenure in Kuwait.

## Missing the connection ...

By Jadranka Porter

Arab Times staff

WITH the advent of Ramadan and with the summer not too far behind Kuwait-hosted conferences, symposia and seminars will soon enter a seasonal lull. Not that anyone will be distressed.

International, regional and national professional gatherings held in Kuwait, be they on energy, medicine or finance, are often boring and of little use. Participants complain that they fail to provide a lively exchange of information and new insights into the subject matter.

As one speaker at this week's banking seminar said these meetings stand or fall on coffee break conversations when valuable contacts can be made and information exchanged. "The best part are lunches and dinners" quipped one expatriate accountant.

Cynicism aside, they seem to produce too little to justify the money and time spent.

Not that Kuwait cannot attract the best speakers. But even top foreign professionals are not guarantee for a successful conference.

Some speak at length about their speciality but are unable to make the all-important connection between their expertise and its application in Kuwait. Their comments on the local aspects, if included, often amount to no more than a footnote.

Those who are knowledgeable about the area tend to sidestep the real issues out of consideration for the host country or even worse because they are locked in a kind of a client-paymaster relationship.

To top up his academic discourse at a finance conference in Kuwait last year a California academic, advising Kuwaitis on their investments in Japan, cited the examples of Mexico and Taiwan. He could not be brought to speak of cases closer to home.

"What we often get is either sales talk or indepth analysis of the Latin American situation" complained a Saudi-based banker who frequently attends meetings in the region.

### Risky

In answer to such complaints a foreign finance expert addressing recently a group of Kuwaiti bankers said: "It is difficult for me to tell you about the

banking system in Kuwait."

More than difficult it is risky. A few home truths could put personal reputations and company interests in the area at stake.

The end result is that local participants feel they are being shortchanged and are naturally disgruntled.

But the larger portion of the blame lies with the homegrown officials and experts. It is primarily their duty to set the tone at locally held international meetings. Yet, too often mid-level Kuwaiti and expatriate professionals are cowed into saying what they are told to say or altogether refrain from the discussion. There have been cases when "awkward" questions have not been answered, or even worse the inquirer was silenced. The questioning of public policy and criticism are not looked upon kindly and are often replaced by platitudes.

Workshops are not what they should be with some local participants showing overwhelming preference for being talked at than entering a discussion.

If held in the afternoons, outside the working hours, they are poorly attended.

### Objectivity

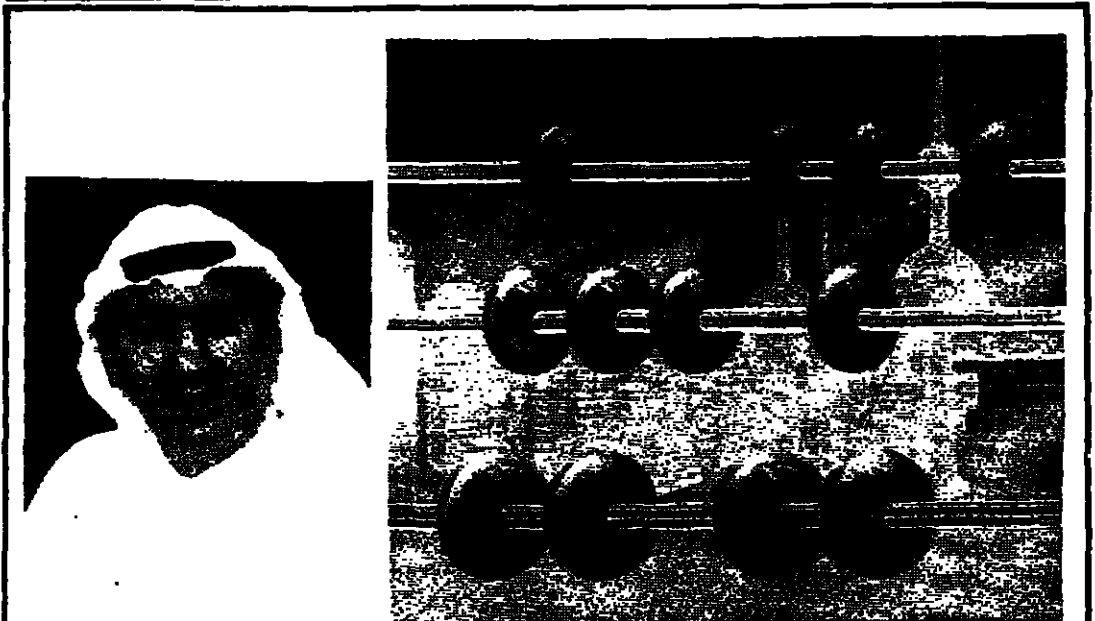
This is not exactly the fertile ground for foreign experts and it comes as no surprise that some cannot be bothered to prepare original material or update their papers for presentation in Kuwait.

Some openly admit that they save their best material for publication or announcement before a more authoritative audience usually in the West. The Arab experts as well are known to speak more freely and objectively at conferences outside the Arab world.

Participation in some of the local seminars could be a costly affair and questions are being raised whether the participants are getting their money's worth.

A two-day seminar/workshop meeting on Gulf Banking and Finance organised by the Middle East Economic Digest this week cost KD180. "Information is expensive, if you get it" said one banker who attended.

If you don't, it is better you attend food promotions and folk festivals. They cost less and at least your appetite is sated.



## Gulf Bank Introduces Far Eastern Unit Trust

KUWAIT, 17 March, 1990: Dr. Youssef Al-Awadi, CEO and Chief General Manager of the Gulf Bank announced today the introduction of five Far Eastern unit trusts under the Gulf Bank's, Dhow International Investment Services (DIIS) umbrella. The unit trusts, managed for the Bank by Jardine Fleming, Hong Kong, are available exclusively in the Far Eastern markets and currently has in excess of US\$5.6 billion under management.

Commenting on the trusts, Dr. Al-Awadi said, "The Gulf Bank is excited about the opportunity these high performing trusts have for the investors in Kuwait. The Japanese and Far Eastern markets have shown historic strong growth. The overall soundness of markets coupled with both the expertise and experience of our managers suggests continued opportunities for long term growth at levels well above those of alternative investments."

The trusts launched today are, the Japan Trust, the Japan Technology Trust, the Asian Trust, the Pacific Income Trust, and the Hong Kong Trust.

The Japan Trust, begun in 1969, is one of the oldest trusts invested exclusively in the Japanese market. During 1989 the fund produced a yield of 54.6 per cent compared to a gain of 22.2 per cent for the main stock market index. The fund is managed to secure long term capital growth for the investor with an emphasis on consumer products companies.

The Japan Technology Trust, begun in 1981, has had an overall annualized yield of 39.1 per cent. The Japanese have devoted considerable resources to the research and development of high technology systems in the areas of electronics, materials, and pharmaceuticals. The trust's performance is reflective of the profits these technology companies have achieved in the world markets.

The Asian Trust, launched in 1983, is invested in major companies listed on the Indonesian, Malaysian, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand stock exchanges. As a diversified international trust the managers invest only in the highest quality issues in each market. The trust is managed for long term capital growth with a lower risk level. Since launch the trust has had an average annualized yield of 36.2 per cent.

The Pacific Income Trust, begun in 1980, is invested in a range of securities. The trust is managed with a view toward income and therefore takes advantage of opportunities in fixed income securities such as bonds, convertible bonds, etc. The trust is invested in Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Singapore and Taiwan.

Since inception the fund has consistent appreciation and resulting in an annual average yield of 42.7 per cent. The Hong Kong Trust, started in 1973, is invested in companies listed on the Hong Kong stock exchange. Hong Kong is the world's fourth largest financial center and one of the world's largest ports. As the gateway to China with a consumer population in excess of one billion Hong Kong is expected to remain a world financial center into the next century. The fund has returned on average 41 per cent per year since launch.

These funds have been introduced with a minimum investment of US\$1,000. Dr. Al-Awadi indicated that the low initial investment, compared to other funds that require as much as US\$25,000 to start, opens up the market for the small investor. "Gulf Bank believes that every investor should have the opportunity to take advantage of world markets and is pleased to offer these new trusts at investment levels affordable to the smaller investor," said Dr. Al-Awadi.

These five new trusts join the current DIIS family of funds that include the DIIS Money Market Fund, the Gold Fund and the Islamic Fund. With eight unit trusts under management the Gulf Bank is currently the largest and most diversified provider of Unit Trusts in Kuwait. The Gulf Bank with 28 offices in Kuwait is Kuwait's second largest bank with assets of KD 2 billion. Dhow International Investment Services has been serving the needs to the Kuwait investor market since 1986.

Information on DIIS unit trusts is available 24 hours a day through the Bank's Hotline at 2430362. All of the DIIS products are available at any offices of the bank.

## Seminar on retarded children in Kuwait

THE Faculty of Education at Kuwait University under the theme Development of Public Education in Kuwait, recently held a seminar at the premises of the faculty situated in Kifan entitled "Retarded Children in Kuwait — the Reality and the Rights."

The seminar was hosted by the Chairman of Kuwait Society for Handicapped Care" Abdu Rahman Salem Al Ateeqi. Dr. Kamal Mursi from the Faculty of Education, the Director of Private Education at the Ministry of Education, Mohammed Al Humaidi and the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Khalifa School, Luwla Al Ghanim.

Mursi said that patronising the cause of retarded children constitutes a social, economic and religious need and commented that patronage should be provided at an early age. He commented that retarded children should be classified into several denominations according to their intelligence quotient.

Luwla Al Ghanim also speaking at the seminar said that the patronage for the handicapped in Kuwait is at a low level and cited the case where the current institutions could not accommodate all the handicapped in the country. The government represented by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour and the Ministry of Public

Health is sparing no efforts in this connection, but the private sector should also play its role, Ghanim said.

Humaidi talked about the Ministry of Education's experiment in the field of handicapped patronage and said that the government sector had achieved success in this connection compared to the neighbouring countries and added that the patronage in Kuwait is on a level prevailing in advanced countries. He said that a retarded person should be treated as a human being, rather than a machine. He disclosed that the ministry has formed a working team to look after the interests of retarded children and their efforts have proved highly successful.

Ateeqi talked about the Kuwait Society for Handicapped and said that the care that the society provides has enabled a large number of retarded children to enroll in special institutes to obtain necessary qualifications. He said that the qualification training course organised in 1986 in co-operation with several institutions in the country had achieved commendable results.

The seminar was attended by the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Education, Abdu Rahman Al Khodari and a number of senior officials.



## MIDEAST

## Carter blasts Israel for human rights violations

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, March 19, (Reuters): Former US president Jimmy Carter, on a tour of the Middle East, strongly condemned Israeli human rights violations against Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

"What we are talking about is the systematic deprivation of people under their basic human rights," Carter said, as he left a meeting with Israeli human rights group B'Tselem.

Complaints have risen up against Israeli rule in the occupied territories for

more than 27 months. More than 800 Palestinians and 44 Jews have been killed in the uprising.

Carter, who later met Palestinian nationalist leaders in Arab East Jerusalem, said he was deeply disturbed by the statistics produced by B'Tselem.

"Here you have a democratic government that for almost 23 years has been responsible for the lives of these people," said Carter, who brokered the Camp David accords that led to the 1979 peace treaty between Israel and Egypt.

"And they are still putting them in prison without charges — they don't

have a chance to see their families, they don't even have a chance to face their accusers and they stay in prison for as much as a year."

In attempts to crush the uprising, Israel has widely used administrative detention under which it can hold Palestinians without bringing formal charges for up to a year.

Carter, citing B'Tselem figures, said that almost a quarter of all adult males in the occupied territories had been jailed at some point during the uprising and about 9,000 Palestinians were now being held.

"There's hardly a family that lives in

the West Bank and Gaza Strip who hasn't had one of the male members actually incarcerated by the military authorities since the intifada (uprising) started, and that's about 100,000," he said.

Carter met yesterday with leaders of Israel's two rival political parties whose coalition dissolved over the Middle East peace process.

Carter brought with him a message from Syrian President Hafez Assad that Damascus backs a peace process in the region. While in Amman Saturday, Carter said Assad's message also included Syria's desire to enter into direct negotia-

tions with Israel as part of an international peace conference regarding the demilitarisation of the Golan Heights, once Syrian and now Israeli-annexed.

In Tunis, a senior Palestinian leader Khaled El Hassan said yesterday he supported Carter's efforts to bring Syria and Israel into direct peace talks through an international conference.

El Hassan, Central Committee member of the main Palestinian command group Fatah, also called for a meeting between Syrian President Hafez El Assad and Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Former US president Jimmy Carter (right) waves as he meets with Labour Party leader Shimon Peres on a hotel terrace overlooking occupied Jerusalem. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Jordan to probe fraud in secrecy

AMMAN, March 19, (Reuters): Jordan's parliament, under public pressure to investigate corruption and financial mismanagement, voted yesterday to grapple with the issue in secret.

"For the sake of the investigation, it is better to keep a tight lid on the information until it reaches the judiciary," Justice Minister Yusef Mbeideen told the 80-seat house, which decided to consider a report on corruption by its finance committee in closed session tomorrow.

Committee members said they had documents that might serve as ground for legal action but insisted secrecy was needed to curb gossip. Other deputies called for openness.

"A secret session would do more harm than good," said Salim al-Sayid, a pro-Syrian Baathist sympathiser. "Such meetings would open the door for rumours and confusion among the citizens."

Yusef Mbeideen, a finance committee member, said it had proposed reviewing certain government contracts for possible irregularities.

"Any project is mentioned in the media, people will automatically identify the suspect," he said. "This case many officials are under suspicion," he said.

The committee said it wanted to review financial documents to see if they ran up an \$8-million credit line.

The committee, including those from the Jordan Brotherhood, was set up during November's elections to investigate alleged corruption and bring corrupt officials to trial.

Justice Minister Yusef Mbeideen said the committee would co-operate with the parliament in uncovering any irregularities and prepare legislation to prevent future crimes.

The finance committee recommended that parliament reject amendments to tax legislation passed by the government as a temporary law just before the parliamentary election.

Finance Minister Basel Jaradat, shepherding Jordan along a reform path agreed with the International Monetary Fund, responded angrily that this would strip 20 million dinars (\$30 million) from government revenue in 1991.

Finance committee members, arguing that it would cost the treasury less than seven million dinars (\$10.3 million), gave Jaradat four days to prove his case to the house.

The minister said tax accounted for barely three per cent of gross domestic product, low compared with Jordan's neighbours.

He said the government would have to find new ways to balance its budget if the tax changes were axed, and challenged the house to say if it wanted higher customs duties or cuts in food subsidies or state services instead.

Some deputies said Jordan should care less about the IMF and more about social and economic needs.

## Islamic centre

ATHENS, March 19, (Kuna): An Islamic centre has been inaugurated in the Greek island of Crete, the first of its kind in the country.

The centre for Arab and Islamic studies, it was announced here today. The International Islamic News Agency (IINA) said that the centre would serve as a library and a place for Islamic studies and a scientific research centre for oriental studies in Crete's universities.

## Najib calls for party congress after purge

Plans to end PDPA monopoly on power

KABUL, March 19, (Reuters): Afghan President Najibullah has called for a congress of his ruling party after purging the central committee of members linked to the failed coup attempt on March 6.

"We announced two years ago that we are giving up monopoly of power, but in practice we have changed our stand very little so far," the official Bakhtar news agency quoted him as telling a party central

committee meeting yesterday.

"We have to convene the second congress of the party," he said without mentioning a date.

Najib also called yesterday for Afghanistan's ruling party to give up its monopoly on power, the agency reported.



Relief debris

A fighter of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front strolls past debris of bags of relief food, still smouldering, three weeks after the battle for Masawa. The

bags of wheat, donated by the European Economic Community, were used as fortification sandbags by Ethiopian troops. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Clashes flare in Lebanon

BEIRUT, March 19, (Agencies): Rival Christian forces traded mortar and gunfire in East Beirut today, while Shiite Muslim militias pounded each other with artillery and tank fire in south Lebanon, police reported.

They said one soldier of renegade Gen. Michel Aoun's army was wounded in gunbattles with Lebanese Forces militiamen of Christian warlord Samir Geagea in East Beirut's Sin El Fil residential district.

In Ballounah, Lebanon, the ashes still glowed as Red Cross workers lifted six charred corpses from an underground shelter that became an inferno of blazing fuel.

"That's Rami. Those are his jeans and shoes," sobbed a relative of the Hasbani family as the first body appeared.

The shoes were very small because Rami Diab was only four years old when he died during an inter-Christian battle on Saturday.

The hostilities threatened a ceasefire called March 3 to halt the bloodiest Christian power struggle since Lebanon's civil war started 15 years ago.

By police count, at least 762 people were killed and 2,116 wounded since Aoun's flight with Geagea for control of the 310-square-mile (800-sq km) enclave started Jan 30.

Police said no casualties were reported from the fighting in south Lebanon between the Iranian-backed fundamentalist Hezbollah, and the pro-Syrian mainstream Amal militia.

A Hezbollah communiqué accused Amal of launching a surprise attack with tanks to recapture of strategic villages in Iqim Al Tuffah, the apple province, southeast of the port city of Sidon.

The communiqué said Hezbollah's fighters repulsed Amal's onslaught on the villages of Kfar Hatta and Kfar Melki after heavy fighting with tanks, mortars and 106mm recoilless guns from dusk yesterday to dawn today.

## Gaza-Egypt tunnel link discovered

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, March 19, (Reuters): Israel has discovered two tunnels linking the occupied Gaza Strip to Egypt used by smugglers and illegal immigrants, the army said today.

An army spokeswoman said defence forces uncovered the tunnels in the past month near the Palestinian town of Rafah on Israel's border with Egypt.

Israel and army radios said wanted activists of the 27-month-old Palestinian uprising against Israeli rule in the occupied territories sometimes used the tunnels as escape routes.

Gaza police spokesman Yigal Golan said they were conduits for smuggling drugs, gold and money and originated in residents' homes near the border.

## 'Next move is Israel's'

Baker's plan remains in balance

CAYENNE, French Guiana, March 19, (UPI): US Secretary of State James Baker said the next step in the Middle East peace process must be taken by Israel, whose government collapsed last week because of bitter divisions over an American plan to promote talks with the Palestinians.

"What happens now is a matter for the Israelis to determine. It is an internal matter within Israel," Baker told reporters aboard his plane en route to Windhoek, Namibia, for independence ceremonies.

Baker's remarks indicate he is not planning to undertake new efforts to push forward the peace process until Israeli political leaders are able to put together a new government.

The Israeli Knesset, or parliament, voted Thursday to bring down the government of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir after the Israeli leader refused to compromise and accept Baker's proposal for a Palestinian delegation to talks with Israel.

"The Israeli Knesset focused on the real issue," Baker said. "The real issue is do we move forward to peace? That question remains there."

Baker had asked the Israeli government to allow the delegation to include Palestinians expelled from the occupied territories and Arabs from east Jerusalem who have a second residence in the West Bank.

The delegation would meet with Israeli representatives in the territories. The elections would choose Palestinian representatives to negotiate with Israel on a final settlement for the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Since the collapse of the government, Israeli President Chaim Herzog has been meeting with various political groups to determine which of the largest two parties, Labour or Shamir's Likud, has the best chance of forming a new government.

## Hardliners opposed to Rafsanjani derail efforts to win hostages' release: US network

WASHINGTON, March 19, (AP): Efforts by moderate officials in Iran to push for the release of hostages being held in the Mideast have been derailed by hardliners opposed to Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani, ABC news said last night.

In a report from Paris attributed to sources within the Hezbollah movement in Lebanon, the US television news programme reported that leaders of groups holding hostages in Lebanon were summoned to Tehran for meetings last week.

"There, the current plan to release the hostages was sabotaged by Iranian hardliners opposed to Rafsanjani," ABC correspondent Pierre Salinger reported.

"The hostage leaders returned to Lebanon three days ago and one of the organisations, Islamic Jihad, issued a statement saying the hostages wouldn't be released," he said. "This position was confirmed at a secret meeting in Lebanon 48 hours ago."

The sources were not further identified.

US government spokesman Alix Glen said last night there would be no White House reaction to the report.

There had been several weeks of hints that the hostage issue might be moving toward a solution until March 15 when Islamic Jihad threatened to kill three captive American educators unless its demands were met regarding Jewish

## immigration from the Soviet Union. The demands were not spelled out.

The Tehran Times newspaper in Iran, which has close ties to Rafsanjani, said in recent editorials that the hostages should be freed on humanitarian grounds.

Rafsanjani himself said he thought the issue was moving toward a solution.

Also, Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadallah, spiritual guide of Hezbollah, said last month in a sermon that a humanitarian means of freeing the hostages must be found.

The longest held of 18 Western hostages is Terry Anderson, chief Middle East correspondent of the Associated Press, abducted in Beirut on March 16,

## 1985. Most of the others have been missing at least three years.

In Cyprus Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati and his Syrian counterpart Farouk Al Sharaa met for two hours to discuss Damascus-Tehran links and international developments, the official Islamic Republic News Agency said today.

Iran said Velayati stressed the need for stronger ties between Persian Iran and Arab Syria during the talks yesterday after Sharaa arrived in the Iranian capital for a two-day visit.

The Iran dispatch, monitored in Nicosia, did not mention the issue of the foreign hostages in Lebanon.

The agency said officials of the two

## Religious parties also divided

## Labour, Likud in woo race

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, March 19, (Agencies): Both Labour and Likud continued intensive efforts today to persuade three small religious parties to back them to form the next government. Their support is essential to form a coalition of at least 61 of the 120 seats in Parliament.

A fourth religious party Shas played a key role in bringing down the coalition last Thursday by failing to support Yitzhak Shamir in a no-confidence vote. But yesterday it said it would back Likud as long as the right-wing party ended its rejection of peace talks with Palestinians.

Former Labour Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin met Shamir today to formally turn over his portfolio, perhaps the most powerful in the government.

Peres suffered a setback in his bid to become Israel's next prime minister after a reversal by the religious party that helped him topple Shamir.

The Shas party told President Chaim Herzog yesterday that it backed another unity government led by Shamir's rightist Likud party provided it would accept a US proposal for the first Israeli-Palestinian peace talks in Cairo.

Labour officials bet that Likud will be unable to agree to the Shas conditions because of pressure from party hardliners.

But Shas' recommendation was nevertheless a blow to Peres, who hoped to get its endorsement to set up the next government.

"We would have been much happier had they decided to recommend Peres," an official close to the Labour leader told Reuters. "But let's wait and see who Agudat Israel will recommend."

Meanwhile, Agudat Israel decided today to throw its sup-

port behind the left-of-centre Labour Party to form the next government, giving a boost to Labour's chances.

Rabbi Avishai Shikoker of Agudat's "Council of Torah Sages" said on army radio that the party's separate political leadership would passaking the view to President Chaim Herzog, who is responsible for choosing the man to head the next cabinet.

But Shikoker said Shas wanted Peres to form a "broad-based government" to replace Shamir's Likud-Labour coalition that collapsed last Thursday.

Peres was initially expected to be Herzog's choice, but complications have arisen with growing splits and indecision in the religious camp over who to favour.

The decision by the Agudat rabbis in the Tel Aviv suburb of Be'er Brak came after Likud put intensive pressure on the party to drop its support for Labour, a switch that could have altered the arithmetic in Likud's favour.

Agudat Israel, a party founded as an anti-Zionist movement in Eastern Europe in the 19th century, is traditionally neutral on foreign policy. Therefore, it usually backs the party that pledges more support for religious institutions.

Agudat Israel's decision emerged as crucial after leaders of the six-member Sephardic shas, or "torah guardians," party told Herzog on Sunday that Likud was their choice to form a new government.

There are also growing apprehensions in both Labour and Likud of remaining locked in a stalemate which could eventually force parliament to move up national elections now scheduled for 1992.

## Family asphyxiates

ALGIERS, March 19, (Reuters): Seven members of an Algerian family were killed in their home by gas fumes from a defective water heater, the Algerian News Agency APS reported.

APS said late yesterday that a couple, their four children and a grandfather died of asphyxiation in a flat in the capital. It did not say when the accident took place.

Mystery patient

MINNEAPOLIS, March 19, (UPI): A mystery patient from the Middle East was admitted to University of Minnesota hospital during the weekend for a kidney transplant, officials said.

Dr Arthur Matas, director of the hospital's kidney transplant programme said the closely guarded patient has had thrush on his life and has requested his identity be kept confidential.

The patient is not a candidate for a cadaver donor, Matas said, and will not affect the order of the list of patients waiting for kidney transplants. Matas said he did not know anything about the donor.

Iran opens centre

NICOSIA, March 19, (AP): Iran opened a centre for the treatment of chemical weapons victims yesterday, the official Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

The agency, monitored in Cyprus, said the centre in Tehran was opened by Health Minister Ira Fazel. It gave no further details on the facility.

It said the centre was opened to mark the third anniversary of an Iraqi chemical weapons attack on the mountain town of Halabja on March 16-17, 1987, soon after the area was captured from Iraq.

## Sharif in Amman

AMMAN, March 19, (Kuna): Syria's second vice-president Saif al-Jarrah today arrived here on brief visit during which he is to convey a message from President Joseph Saidu Monro to Jordanian monarch King Hussein.

Sharif is expected to meet with Jordanian vice-roy and Crown Prince Hassan Bin Talal to hand over the message. Leasing and Jordan are bound by joint agreement on air freight and aviation.

Meet on SA

CAIRO, March 19, (Kuna): Meetings of the fourth session of the ad hoc committee on South Africa today opened in Luxor, Zambia.

Radio Cairo reported today that Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak chaired the session in his capacity as current president of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

The committee meetings which are attended by thirteen heads of state, will discuss a report submitted by OAU, latest developments in South Africa and means of promoting liberation movement to end the apartheid regime.

Jail for spying

CAIRO, March 19, (Reuters): A Cairo court sentenced a Palestinian to 15 years hard labour today for trying to recruit Egyptians to spy for Israel.

A second man, an Egyptian who now has Israeli citizenship, was tried in absentia and also sentenced to 15 years hard labour on similar charges.

The court was told Palestinian Ahmad Mousa, 35, and Egyptian Ibrahim Meshari Al-Sawari, 35, had worked for the Israeli intelligence service Mossad.



They prepare the catafalque of Armenian Patriarch Shnorh Calusian today at Istanbul's Virgin Mary Church for the funeral ceremony of the spiritual leader of Turkey's 60,000 Armenian community. (Reuters wirephoto)

LANGLITA





## Turkish fashion show at the Kuwait International

By **Lina Al Khalafawi**  
Arab Times staff

**LAVISH** embroidered Turkish traditional and modern clothes went on show on Friday at the Kuwait International Hotel.

The oriental collection show was dominated with harem pants and embroidered capes and jackets adorned with touches of silver and gold.

A group of six models were swaying and moving their hands gracefully to the lively oriental music that carried guests to the East. The colours were a mangle of

mauves, oranges, mustards and olive greens that displayed good taste of harem costumes in the old times. Gowns, long skirts and sarwars were of silk, velvet and linen.

The modern Turkish collection followed and simultaneously the modern rhythms of Turkish music subtly changed with applause from the audience. The variation of long and short, skirts and sarwars, pants and dresses showed the current trend that has an influence of the unfaded exquisite Turkish designs.

A Turkish wedding ceremony also was portrayed in front of the guests when six girls holding candles accompanying a bride showed how a bride was prepared for the ceremony.

The Turkish festival and fashion show that took place on March 16-19, was praised by the people.

## TELEVISION PROGRAMME

### KTV 1

**MORNING**  
9.30 The Opening and Holy Quran  
9.40 Sabah Al Kher news  
9.50 Cartoon serial  
10.15 Magazine D'Actualite (repetition)  
10.30 Shuaa Min Al Madi: Arabic serial (part 27)  
11.30 Sabah Al Kher news  
11.45 Challenges: cultural programme  
12.15 Sabah Al Kher news  
12.25 News summary  
12.35 Holy Quran and Closedown

### EVENING

4.00 The Opening and Holy Quran  
4.15 The World Today via Satellite (repetition)  
4.45 Saham Al Fadh: cartoon serial (final part)  
5.15 The World of Tomorrow: cultural serial  
5.45 Night chemists, airlines and official advertisements  
6.00 Wa Qalat Al Arab: Historical serial  
6.45 Varieties  
7.00 Cultural programme (part 3)  
8.00 Made in Kuwait: Information programme, prepared and presented by Dr Ali Al Damkhi  
8.30 Good Evening and local news  
9.00 News in Arabic  
9.45 Lil Adala Wajh Akhar: Arabic serial (part 7), starring Affaf Shuaib, Omar Al Harezi, Safa Al Sabe and Mohamed Khayri  
10.45 Al Burkan: weekly Bedouin serial (final part), starring Rasheed Assaf, and Fadya Khattab  
11.30 News summary  
11.45 The World Today via Satellite  
12.00 Holy Quran and Closedown

### KTV 2

6.00 Opening announcement and Holy Quran  
6.10 Diplodoc: A cartoon series for children  
6.30 The Little World of Dictmar: An idea about the man who supervises this series and called "Dictmar" of European origin who is greatly interested in nature and natural life...  
7.00 Peaceable Kingdom: "Kitty Paws". Rebecca has to coordinate her duties at home with those in the Zoo...  
8.00 News in English  
8.30 You and the Law  
8.45 Coming of Age: "Kids are coming...". Dick and Jennie receive their daughter, son-in-law and their kids at their home where their peaceful life is turned upside down...  
9.15 The American Century: "In Pursuit of Invention." Mobility, Freedom, Fun! And Congestion and pollution! The legacy of Henry Ford and his Model-T, which launched the age of mass production and a new work ethic. Then Wright Brothers, Charles Lindbergh... to the astronauts...  
10.00 The Twilight Zone  
11.15 "Beautiful are the Stars". American authorities are requested by the government of South Africa to trace stolen diamonds... Hawk sets up an ambush where the diamonds during the shooting reach a young girl who is chased by both the robbers and the police...  
12.15 News in Brief  
12.30 Magazine D'Actualite

## CINEMA

Al Andalus  
Arabic film  
Al Sahniyah  
D.O.A.  
Al Hamra  
Jungle Assault  
Drive-In  
North Shore  
Al Firdous  
Na Insaafi  
Fahsheel Open  
Ghar Mein Ram Gali Mein  
Shyam

Fahsheel  
Batman  
Al Jahra  
Joga Jog  
Granada  
Varavelpu  
Salabikhat  
Distant Thunder  
Jeeb  
Bhul Bichar  
Almadi Drive-In  
Arabic film

## NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait  
Al Ghanem Pharmacy  
Fahd Al Salem Street  
Al Mojel Pharmacy  
Abdullah Al Mubarak Street  
Hawalli and Nagra  
Al Waleed Pharmacy  
Tunis Street  
Salma and Rumanithiya  
Secma Pharmacy  
Baghdad Street  
Fahsheel and Almadi  
Al Khaleej Pharmacy  
Mojama Street  
Kheitan  
Al Fahed Pharmacy  
Property of Hmoud Al Khaled  
Inheritors  
Jahra  
Al Zahra Pharmacy  
The new market

## WHAT'S ON

### ARTS

**Watercolours of Arabia**  
Recent watercolours by Patricia Mills on exhibition at the studio, the Tareq Rajab Museum, Jabriya, Saturday thru Thursday 9.30 to 12 and 4.30 to 8 pm, from March 6 to 20, 1990. Tel: 5315397; or 5318060.

**Sultan Gallery**  
INDIAN artist Shamima Farid is showing a collection of her latest works at the Sultan Gallery, near Rolls Royce showroom. A wide selection of subjects are featured in the paintings of the artist, who has exhibited widely in Kuwait and overseas. However, this is Shamima's first solo-exhibition in Kuwait. Open daily from 9 am to 1 pm and 4 to 8 pm.

**SAS Hotel**  
EXHIBITION of water colour and oil paintings as well as stained glass in the lobby until March 20.

### SOCIAL

**"Bengali drama"**  
"BANDHAN" Nattya Chakra, a Bengali drama group, is going to perform its third stage show, a Bengali drama, "Boudir Beey" on Thursday, March 22 at 5 pm in the Starlight Theatre hall at Doha Entertainment City, Kuwait.

The Ambassador of Bangladesh in Kuwait Mr. K. M. Shehabuddin will be the chief guest.  
For entry cards, please contact the following persons: Abdur Rab, Tel. 4316823; Jasim Uddin, Tel. 2420484; Miah Mohammad Hanif, Tel. 4849100, Ext. 104 and Video A to Z, Tel. 3924320.

**Ladies International League**  
THERE will be a coffee morning for newcomers to LIL and Kuwait on Sunday March 25 at the Sheraton Hotel in the Green Room from 10 am to 12 noon. All are welcome. For more info telephone Ann on 5316905.

### Private Lives

THE leading British theatrical group, Cafe Theatre, is staging Noel Coward's comedy, Private Lives, at the Kuwait International Hotel on March 22 and 23. The play radiates warmth, vigour, fun and humour and Noel Coward's sparkling dialogue keeps the audience laughing all the way through. Tickets at: 2530000 Ext. 4010. The group also wishes to visit organisations for lectures and theatre workshops free of charge. Can be organised through the Public Relations Dept. of the Kuwait International.

**Narmada's Malayalam play**  
NARMADA Theatre will be staging a Malayalam play, A Love Mantra From Ujjain, at Indian Arts Circle auditorium, Funaites on Friday, May 11, 1990 at 6.30 pm. Written by Varghese Paul, lyrics by Rajendra Babu, music by Antony Joseph, the play is co-directed by Sherry John and directed by Jayan Pattathu. Various characters are being represented by popular stage artists among the Malayalee community in Kuwait.

**Holi — Festival of Colours**  
THE IAC is celebrating the festival of colours to commemorate the coming of Spring on Thurs 22nd March at Funaites with a suitable programme. Members and their guests are requested to contact the IAC office (3904817), Sharma (2644863), Raman (3903879), Mathews (4343329), Srivastava (4898162) or Munshi (2423740) for details and passes. Because of limitations, passes are available on first-come-first-serve basis.

**Kuwait Little Theatre**  
KUWAIT Little Theatre presents "Oh Clarence", a comedy by John Chapman, adapted from the books of P.G. Wodehouse. Gala Night is on March 19, 1990, at 7.30 pm with other performances on March 20, 21 and 22 at 8.00 pm. Tickets can be booked by phoning 3919759.

### Badesik Picnic

Bangladesh Diploma Engineers' Society in Kuwait (Badesik) has organised its annual picnic to be held in Mangaf family beach on March 23. The events included the prize distribution of recently completed indoor games and the children sports to be played on the spot. Bangladesh Ambassador to Kuwait K.M. Shehabuddin will be the chief guest.

All Badesik member's are requested to contact general secretary Khalid Rahman on tel. 4330025 for more details.

### Summer Affair '90

THE Weekend Club will host their traditional "Summer Affair" on the first day of Eid Al Fitr (April 26) at the Regency Palace Hotel. Watch or participate in the selection and crowning of the 1990 Summer Queen, join in a Jive Contest, watch a scintillating display of "Lambada" or simply let your feet loose to the music of Top Ranks and Perfect Strangers. Gala buffet, loads of prizes and most important have a good time. For reservations call 4315425 (Julio), 5741380 or 4890566.

### Shakespeare's Macbeth

THE London Shakespeare Group, who have already received rave reviews for their performance of Macbeth in Bahrain, Doha, Muscat and the Emirates, will perform at the Kuwait English School, Salwa on March 21 and 22, 1990 at 8 pm and on March 23, 1990, at 6 pm. The cast includes professional actors and actresses with classical backgrounds, who have appeared at the London's prestigious National Theatre, various West End theatres, television and radio. All seats are numbered, and can be reserved by ringing 5740256/7, 5625316, 5718143 or 5731782.

**Bazaar**  
A BAZAAR will be held at the Sri Lanka embassy premises on Friday March 23, 1990, from 10.00 am to 5.00 pm, organised by the Sri Lanka Seva Vanitha Unit Kuwait. All are welcome. For more information contact 4817857.

### Ladies International League of Kuwait upcoming events

LIL Desert Picnic on Friday: March 23, 1990. Members and their guests. For further information and tickets please contact Barbara on 5325131. Deadline for tickets is March 17.

### Yoga lessons

FOR FITNESS and slimming, Kuwait International Hotel offers Yoga lessons for ladies and men, every Sunday and Tuesday at 8.00 to 9.00 pm and on Friday from 10.30 to 11.30 am. For more information contact Antonio Kingma on 2533000 or Tanya on 5626529.

### Bangladesh get-together

A NUMBER of Bangladeshi families will hold a spring get-together at the Rawda Park, Damascus Street on March 23. The day-long programme, which starts at 8 am, will include children's games, ladies and gents games and bingo.

For details, contact telephone 3725312, 4315352, 4715734, or 3713923.

### Daniella Desert Rally

The annual family rally for Danes will take place on Friday, March 23. For registration, please call Henrik — Tel: 3727688/92 ext. 246.

### Rose Ferns' drama

MAY 10-11: Expatriates Club proudly announces that Goa's celebrated king of century shows Rose Ferns, and his sixteen member troupe, will present at the Granada Cinema hall, Kheitan, his premier release in Kuwait "Xinxie" (Broken Glass) and "Beiman Tum" (You Ungrateful) which has already crossed the hundred plus mark in Goa. More details later.

### Konkani non-stop show

A Konkani non-stop show entitled Koxit Ani Sontos (Hardships & Happiness), written and directed by Epa de Urtora, organised by Urtora Lourdes Boys will be staged on July 6, 1990 at 3.30 pm. Venue: Labour Union Hall, Maidan Hawaii.

For more information contact 4817857.

### German-speaking Cultural Association

THE forthcoming annual election will take place on Monday, March 26, 1990, 8 pm, at Kuwait International Hotel, Ahmadi Room. All ladies and gentlemen of the German-speaking community are requested to attend.

### British Council

Do you want to learn English in Britain or maybe you know someone who does? If so, come along the Education Office at The British Council on Monday March 19 or Tuesday March 20. We will be showing videos about language schools in Britain and giving away lots of information about courses, fees, accommodation etc. All are welcome!

Children's Books of the Year 1989 Exhibition — March 10-22 at The British Council Gallery.

Wednesday, March 21, 6.00 pm — Film showing: Asterix in Britain, The Movie. Go back, far back in time when the Britons stopped fighting for a tea break at 4.00 pm and everyone drank hot water with a little milk because tea hadn't been discovered yet. (75 min).

Thursday, March 22, 10.30 am. Story Time by a professional story teller.

Please book seats by calling Tel. 2515512; 2533204; 2533227.

### HOTELS

#### Bits 'n' Pieces

An interesting 8 week course in patchwork and quilting techniques. For details contact Tel. 5634663.

#### Le Meridien

AL WAHA Cafe features Crepe Festival until 22nd March. Crepes (thin pancakes) are prepared in front of the guest at a special counter. Choice of dessert fillings include fruit salad with cream custard and strawberry sauce, sliced fruit with orange sauce, strawberry with whipped cream, melba sauce and almond, and sliced banana with chocolate sauce. Choice of

topping include chocolate, honey, jam or marmalade, maple syrup and chantilly cream.

Al Fingan Tea Lounge will feature Bananarama Festival from 18th until 22nd March. One can have a variety of choices of mouthwatering banana sweets such as banana fritters with honey, banana tarte, banana tartelletes, chocolate banana and banana charlotte. Special banana drinks include banana milk shake and banana strawberry cocktail. One can also enjoy our special banana split ice cream.

### SPORTS

#### Daniella Bowling

ALL Danes are invited to participate in the first ever Daniella Bowling Tournament on April 5, 1990, at 6 pm. For further information and registration please call Connie - Tel: 3715637 or Marianne - Tel: 3720137 before March 26.

### PRAYERS

Fajr	4.33 am
Zohr	11.56
Asr	3.23 pm
Maghreb	5.59
Isha	7.16

## Oh Clarence

## Kuwait Little Theatre

KUWAIT Little Theatre's latest production is the comedy Oh, Clarence, written by John Chapman and based on the Lord Emsworth books by P.G. Wodehouse.

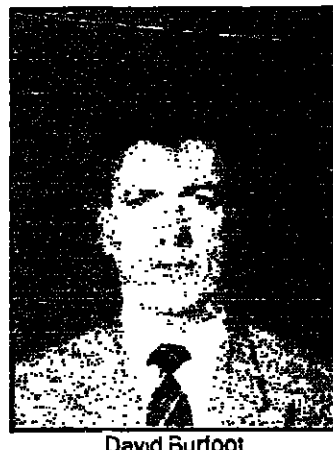
The play starts on a beautiful summer's day in 1927 with Clarence, the ninth Earl of Emworth, content with his lot in life. "My pumpkins are a picture, there is no sign of my son and all's well with the world."

Unfortunately for Clarence the storm clouds are gathering on the horizon. His son Freddie, who came for a short visit and is still around after a month, has fallen in love with a girl who is the niece of Clarence's hated neighbour, Sir Gregory Parsloe. To add to Clarence's troubles his sister decides to invite Sir Gregory and his niece to stay for the weekend. To add to the hilarity Clarence's own niece arrives to stay the weekend to try to forget a bad love affair, her love arrives in disguise, and an old flame of Clarence's turns up, still keen on Clarence but her feelings are not reciprocated.

Like all good comedies, it all turns out right in the end, but to get there involves a torturous and comical route.

The part of Clarence is played by Steven Lane a newcomer to the Kuwait Little Theatre. Other newcomers are Rachel Johnstone, Sue Dorrington and Elizabeth Crosby. The other members of the cast are Maureen Wringe, Hilary Jones, David Burfoot, Jim Williams, Roger Gribble, Derek Fryer, David Dorrington, and Billy Gribble. All of whom have shown in the past that they are fine comedy actors. There are two 'ex Pantomime Dames' in the cast but neither of them will be wearing a frock this time.

The play is directed by David Dorrington and starts at the Kuwait Little Theatre on Monday, March 19, with the gala night. Other performances follow on until Thursday, March 22. Tickets are only KD3 and they can be had by telephoning 3919759.



David Burfoot



Maureen Wringe



Jim Williams







# BUSINESS & FINANCE

Non-interest system has its challenges

## Banking should integrate with culture, beliefs: banker

By M.C. Bose  
Business editor

A WELL-KNOWN Kuwaiti banker has said the role of financial intermediaries such as banks and financial institutions is very important in every economic strategy of any nation. Hence the need for this financial intermediation system to integrate well with the culture and beliefs of a society is extremely important especially in an Islamic nation because Islam demands of its followers total integration of the religion in all aspects of an individual's life. This has an important effect on the efficiency of an interest-based intermediation system as it touches on two of the system's most important activities.

Adnan Al Bahar, general manager of the Kuwait Finance House, was addressing a seminar on banking and finance at the Kuwait SAS Hotel yesterday. The seminar was jointly organised by MEED's local agent, MEED Publishing Co. Ltd., UK and the SAS Hotel.

Talking about the challenge of Islamic banking, Al Bahar said societies naturally seek to grow, develop and prosper. To achieve this they compete with each other which in turn forces them to utilise their resources in the most efficient manner on a continuing basis.

He said Islamic societies must search for their own solutions, solutions that can satisfy their needs of active financial intermediation systems that operate in line with the demands of the Islamic sharia. Creating a non-interest based financial intermediation system has its challenges, such as the need to develop a supervision and monitoring system and the mechanics to operate monetary policy.

Al Bahar said: "However it is my belief that the cost and efforts that are needed by an Islamic society to develop an alien financial system are far higher in the long run because of inefficiencies than the short-term costs of building a system that has been specially designed to fit with the culture of these societies. An economic system like that if engineered with due care and attention from its very beginning

has a good chance of breeding corporate entities and entrepreneurs that are innovative and creative."

"I think that the Japanese offer us a good example, not that the Japanese are specially good at inventing new products but that they have adapted Western management theories and practice in a way that allowed them to get the maximum efficiency and value out of their capabilities as a nation with the minimum waste of resources and it has also helped them to develop some distinctive competitive advantages in areas such as quality control and the capability to perfect production systems and cut production costs," he said.

Al Bahar said: "Now let's look into how successful has Islamic banking been in developing into an alternative financial intermediation system that blends in the best possible manner with the culture of Islamic societies, how resourceful has it been in developing its talents and capabilities to best support the development strategies of these societies and how well does it link these societies with the global capital and trade markets."

The earliest Islamic financial institutions were established between 1975 and 1977. This is at least twenty-five behind the major introduction of banking in most Islamic countries. But this was necessary as the design of a system that was suitable to local values needed local expertise in the financial services industry which takes time to build. However in the meantime these nations urgently needed financial intermediation solutions.

The earliest Islamic banks faced serious challenges ranging from general suspicion about their viability to a common mistrust of their intentions. It was a great challenge to build general public trust and to convince the financial community at home and abroad of the soundness of their business methods.

Since then Islamic banking has steadily grown to a level where we today have an Islamic bank in nearly every Islamic country and those that still do not have one are

in the process of establishing one. Many of these Islamic financial institutions today hold a major market share ranging between 10 per cent and 20 per cent in their respective countries in spite of the fact that in all cases they are by far the youngest of all financial institutions operating in these markets. This can be seen in countries such as Kuwait, Qatar, Egypt, Sudan, Bahrain, and many others.

This clearly shows that Islamic banks have been very successful in developing the financial intermediation model that best fits Islamic societies. This is demonstrated in the market share that the Islamic banks have built over the past few years in their respective markets, overcoming all the doubts in the market place and some not so successful initial experiences.

Moreover several Islamic financial institutions have been operating in the world's major financial centres in non-Islamic societies quite successfully primarily catering to the international financial requirements of their traditional home based clients and acting as a bridge between their domestic clients and the international financial markets.

He said Islamic banks at the beginning faced some difficulties in recycling these savings efficiently and this was due to two reasons: ■ Very fast deposits growth reflecting strong customer demand for Islamically acceptable financial products.

■ These institutions were venturing into new grounds, so while customer demand for banking services was relatively well developed in most of these markets, instruments of financing and investment that conformed to the Islamic sharia were totally underdeveloped.

But the problem did not last long. Acceptable and efficient investment vehicles were developed during the ensuing periods and today Islamic banks are utilising their funds quite efficiently and in the process have developed some very successful and innovative financing and



Adnan Al Bahar

investment techniques. These developments vary from one country to another depending on the nature of each market.

In Kuwait "Kuwait Finance House" was established in 1978 to be the first financial institution to operate its business in accordance with the Islamic sharia and still remains the only such financial institution. Kuwait Finance House is the latest institution which came into being as financial services industry. In spite of being new, small and with limited experience, Kuwait Finance House was able in less than seven years, to carve a market share of approximately 20 per cent and became one of the major financial institutions in Kuwait.

KFH started operating in 1979, in a mature financial market with extensive service coverage, especially in the retail business, by large financial institutions with branch networks ranging between 20 and 40 branches each. Besides this, there were other difficulties confronting Kuwait Finance House: It was to operate in a little explored field with very limited expertise or know-how to draw from.

It was not considered a bank and hence faced many problems to secure acceptability by other finan-

cial institutions and to convince them to do business on its terms.

There was no clear institutional relationship between Kuwait Finance House and the Central Bank of Kuwait. Therefore Kuwait Finance House did not have a say in financial matters.

Meanwhile, KFH had a very clear mission and a focused and well communicated strategy to provide viable and Islamically acceptable alternatives to conventional banking products. A strong belief in and a commitment to the mission and goals of KFH shared by its shareholders, management, staff and customers and a shared sense of responsibility which helped create a very favourable corporate culture.

Financial institutions did not see KFH as a competitor as they did not see it as a bank, so KFH was allowed some room to manoeuvre. There was a large potential demand for Islamic financial services as it became clear from the big turnover.

KFH met with a very favourable response from customers and grew by leaps that surpassed 100 per cent growth rates in some years in both assets and profitability and proceeded to gain the high market share it enjoys today.

KFH services were not confined to viable alternatives to conventional financial services, but gradually went beyond that by exploiting the special talents and capabilities it gained in the process to provide innovative and differentiated products that appealed not only to the Islamic segments but to many other segments of the society.

KFH has given the Kuwaiti society the capability to use its financial intermediation function in a manner that fits with its culture and values allowing a good percentage of the Kuwaiti society an acceptable and viable vehicle to channel its savings to finance Kuwait's economic development, and opened up the financial industry to Kuwaitis to seek a productive and rewarding career.

It has also given the consumer a means to finance his needs, and the

businessman a chance to fund his business, all while at peace and harmony with ones faith and religion which creates the right base for people to bring out the best of their capabilities.

KFH has also introduced new, innovative and very useful products and services to this society. Banks try to avoid merchandise risks and feel comfortable with risks of debt. On the other hand merchants prefer to deal in merchandise risks and are not comfortable with the risk of debt.

In the retail markets, KFH identified that the major needs behind a personal loan were to finance the purchase of cars, furniture or building materials. Hence KFH provided these goods to customers on installments by means of special purchase arrangements with the local suppliers, and because of its ability to purchase in quantities it was able to get a special discount and therefore offer a better price to its customers than the banks.

Islamic banks have done a lot in linking their nations with the rest of the world especially the developing world, more specifically Arab and Islamic countries. This has been done through opening branches and subsidiaries in these countries which helps the flow of capital and exports between them, while conventional Arab financial institutions have concentrated their international operations mainly in the already developed Western countries.

Al Bahar said to further clarify this, there are seven Islamic financial institutions in the GCC countries. These institutions today operate approximately twenty five units in the form of foreign branches or subsidiaries (the biggest networks are those of Albarak and Dar Almal with KFH behind with a much smaller network). This makes an average of three and a half units per institution compared to Kuwaiti conventional banks' average of two units per bank.

Islamic banks are also working hard on encouraging trade flows among Islamic countries and have created funds that are devoted to financing exports between these

countries. They are also in the process of establishing a large trading company that will be based in Bahrain with the purpose of encouraging the development of trade among its member countries.

Another very important advantage is that financial institutions operating according to the codes of Islamic Sharia are in a much better position to withstand competition from global and pan-regional financial institutions in their local markets. In fact there are distinct opportunities for them to carve out a place for themselves in the global financial markets if they manage themselves well due to their differentiated products and specialisation in areas where large global players do not compete. This possibility is of very important value to nations targeting an international role for their financial services industry.

He said that there is no doubt that Islamic banking is a phenomenon that goes much deeper than the issue of merely a banking system structured to operate in line with the Islamic Sharia. It is a fundamental shift in the attitude of our society that concerns all who are involved with it one way or the other. It reflects the growing awareness of Islamic societies that they really can not continue to ignore their heritage and societal values.

On the contrary they must learn to live with it in peace and harmony and be proud of their independent character and social system.

Meanwhile, Bankers' Day was organised at the Kuwait SAS Hotel by holding an exhibition of banking products and books on finance.

The companies which displayed their products were top computer companies such as IBM, Wang (Kuwait Computer Services) and Computhink. Reuters, world's largest electronic publisher displayed their latest products. McGraw and Butterworth books on banking and finance were displayed. The Middle East Financial Directory (MEFD 1990) which has been released this month was also displayed.

## India imposes higher taxes

(Continued from Page 1)

fifty per cent of the investible resources are deployed for agriculture and rural development, the central plan for 1990-91 will have a 49 per cent share for the rural sector in budgetary support, up from the current year's level of 44 per cent.

Dandavate also proposed a scheme for providing debt relief to farmers for borrowers who have taken loans of upto Rs ten thousand from public sector and regional rural banks. A beginning will be made on an employment guarantee scheme with a scheme for drought prone areas and regions with chronic problems of rural unemployment, he said.

Among other things, Dandavate threw up a suggestion to give workers a share in the ownership of public sector undertakings, an idea on which he invited comments from experts and members of parliament.

For Non-resident Indians settled abroad, Dandavate said the government would continue to provide special facilities for them to invest their savings in India. The procedures will be simplified so that they can function with a sense of confidence and in line with declared national policy, he said.

The finance minister also announced some changes in the baggage rules relating to free allowance admissible to passengers arriving from foreign countries. The general free allowance is being increased from Rs1,250 to Rs2,000 per passenger.

There will be a uniform duty rate of 250 per cent for baggage in excess of this limit against the existing 175 per cent and 245 per cent. He has also proposed a uniform duty rate of 25 per cent on specified articles brought by passengers from abroad after a stay of more than one year, subject to certain conditions.

## Dollar eases

LONDON, March 19, (UPI): The dollar closed lower against the major European currencies today. Gold was up.

The dollar closed lower in Frankfurt at 1.6790 German marks against 1.6950 at Friday's close, and also was lower in Paris at 5.680 French francs against 5.7390 in Brussels to 35.00 Belgian francs against 35.24 and in Milan at 1,245.00 lire from 1,254.10.

The dollar closed unchanged in Zurich at 1.5065 Swiss francs.

In London, the pound closed more than a cent lower against the dollar, at \$1.6115 against \$1.6240 at Friday's close.

Dealers said the pound sank to its lowest level in three months against the German mark.

In Zurich, gold closed higher in London at \$402.75 per ounce against \$400.30 per ounce.

Silver closed unchanged in Zurich at \$5.10 per ounce, and also was unchanged in London, closing at \$5.13 per ounce.

**WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP**  
SYDNEY, March 19, (Reuters): Australia's share market closed firmer in the face of heavy falls in Tokyo's Nikkei index. The All Ordinaries ended up 15.2 at 1,599.7.

**TOKYO:** Tokyo shares dropped more than 1,300 points to close with the third biggest one-day point fall in history. The key 225-share Nikkei index plunged 1,353.20 to close at 31,263.24, a 4.15 per cent drop.

**HONG KONG:** Share prices eased

## Kuwait cuts oil price for Japan

NICOSIA, March 19, (Agencies): Kuwait has agreed with its Japanese term customers for a 25 cents reduction in its crude price formula for the second quarter of this year, an oil industry newsletter reported today.

The second quarter price formula has been set at Oman/Dubai spot average minus 75 cents per barrel, as compared with Oman/Dubai spot average minus 50 cents per barrel for the first quarter, the Nicosia, Cyprus-based Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) reported.

Agreements on the second quarter price formula for Kuwait crude, which follows Saudi Arabia's 20 cent cut in Far East price formulas for April, under which Arabian medium is set at Oman/Dubai minus 65 cents per barrel, was initially reached in

talks between the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation and Cosmo Oil last week, MEES said.

Kuwait Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa left Vienna today after attending a two-day meeting of the Opec price and production monitoring panel, concluded here on Saturday.

The eight-member ministerial panel, which comprises oil ministers of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Algeria, Iran, Nigeria, Indonesia and Venezuela had conducted intensive consultations on the topics that would be discussed by the Opec ministerial council in its ordinary session here next May 25.

After comprehensive deliberations on supply-demand conditions and recent developments in international oil markets, the ministers

urged member states to adhere to the Opec's production package reached last November.

The package has set an overall production ceiling of 22 million barrels a day and a benchmark price of \$18 a barrel.

At the end of the panel's meeting here Saturday evening, the chairman of the current session, Algerian Oil Minister Sadik Boussouf said the ministers reviewed various proposals and ideas relating to prospects of prices, supply-demand and production in international markets.

He said the upcoming session of the ministerial council would work out the new production ceiling, the new benchmark price and assign quotas for each member country for the second half of the year.

## OBITUARY

Staff of Modern Pakistan School & College extend their heartfelt condolences

To  
**Mr. & Mrs. Bashir Ahmed (Principal)**

On the sad & sudden demise of their beloved son  
**AFTAB BASHIR**

May Allah rest his soul in peace.

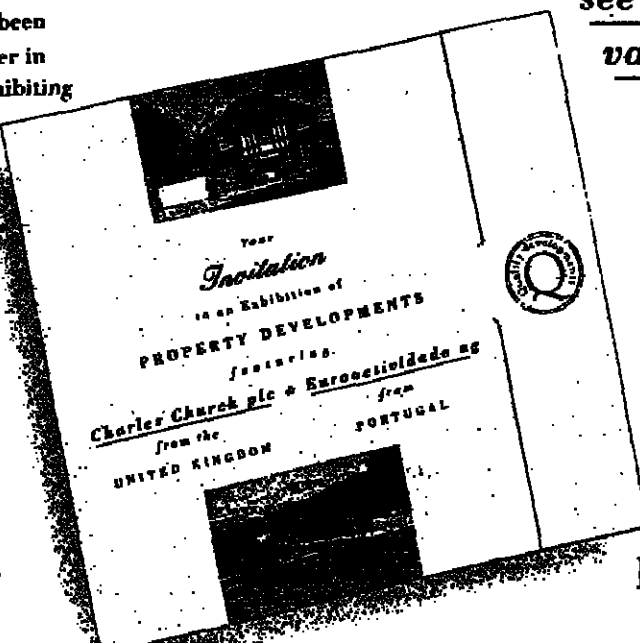
## Your Invitation

### CHARLES CHURCH

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Founded in 1970 and with Swissair as a major shareholder, Euroactividade is a leading developer of golfing and residential leisure resorts on the Algarve of Portugal. The company has an excellent reputation for quality and excellence of architectural design with each development having superb sporting and recreational facilities. There are a variety of financial packages on offer including outright ownership, co-ownership or deferred payment plans. Prices range from £88,000 for plots and £220,000 for villas.



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Some students in a school, which reopened in southern Sudan, sit in the cool shade of the tree in the village of Feriak.

Education

# Tree shade schools reopen in Sudan

By Robert M. Press

BOR, Sudan: Sometimes eagerness to learn can overcome even the violence of war. That's what's happening in rebel areas of southern Sudan, a country now in its seventh year of a wrenching conflict that has seen perhaps a quarter of a million civilian deaths and several million people fleeing their homes.

Many people still live in the south, and life goes on, somehow. Now, very slowly, like the tender notes of a calming song that brings a sense of hope amidst chaos, young children are getting a new chance — for many, the first chance — to get some education. Not much, but some.

Here's a typical scene, deep in rebel territory.

Forty-five young boys and a few girls sit alert in the dirt under a tree in the village of Feriak, just south of this army town.

"This is my name, my name is Afendi. This is my name, my name is Afendi." Later the children count aloud in English through 50. Over and over the students chant in unison the lessons their teacher, Atiny Makdi Yoso, leads them through. The total supplies of this tree-shade school? A single book, which the teacher uses; a blackboard propped up on three sticks; chalk and eraser; and, for the children, pencil stubs and notebooks cut in half to stretch the meager supply.

Those tiny notebooks and pencils have become prized possessions of eager students here and in a growing number of village primary schools under trees or in war-damaged classrooms across much of rebel-held Sudan.

A young boy raced up to a United Nations relief vehicle recently outside Bor and begged — not for food, but for a pencil for school. Most boys in schools are naked; their families have no money for clothes. Girls come modestly clad.

As quickly as schools open, they are flooded with students hungry to learn, despite extreme poverty, uncertainty about food, and occasional aerial bombings.

"When there is bombardment, the children are dispersed," says James Mayan Benjamin, who co-ordinates education in the Bor area. "The next day they come and we teach them again. All the teachers and the students are afraid of the bombings," he says.



A student in an open air classroom clutches precious commodities: pencil and half pad of paper.

Afraid, yes. But still the teachers keep teaching; and the students keep returning to class.

The irrepressible spirit of the children was evident even at the site of a bombing that seriously injured an 11-year-old girl who had just returned from school. As we were walking away from the bombed area, a young boy named Garang Alier started

singing as he followed us down the path.

It is that kind of unquenchable spirit that is filling classes — as soon as they open in the rebel areas — with students whose eyes are not drooping, but straining to see every word their teacher writes on the board.

"They are eager to learn," says Magok Kur Magok, a high-school graduate and accountant-turned-teacher in the village of Mathing, near Bor. Within seven days of his opening the school, some 500 students had enrolled. His own dedication is obvious, too: "When I saw that children in the area were eager to get education, I had to help. The education I got, I'm going to give."

At one school, with grass-thatch walls and roof, and dirt floor, several scores of students were jammed together inside. They clapped when a visitor arrived, and then they started singing. A southern Sudanese on the scene said the song was in praise of the rebel Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA). But he turned away quickly when I asked him to explain that on a tape recording.

A teacher at another location said schools in his area had been started by order of the local chairman of the SPLA. Yet another teacher, asked if he worked for the SPLA or the Sudanese Relief and Rehabilitation Association (SRRA), the rebel area relief agency, said: "I don't know the difference."

Share  
As closely as the schools may be linked to the SPLA, they are meeting an obvious and urgent need. The SRRA estimates that several thousand students are in schools that have started within the past year all over the vast rebel-held territory. The SPLA, which says it is fighting, in part, for a fairer share of power and of federal development money for the South in a united Sudan, has made education a priority. International officials agree that it should be.

"We have to avoid a lost generation," says Dellef Palm, an official with Unicef in Nairobi, Kenya. Much of the United Nations' "operation lifeline" aid for southern Sudan comes from Unicef.

Most of the credit for starting the schools goes to the Sudanese in the rebel areas. The SRRA is seeking outside help, however, and badly needs it. But so far, the SRRA has not presented a detailed plan on

how to use the assistance, says Mr. Palm. Until such a plan is made, international funding, hard enough to get, will be even more difficult, he says.

Unicef, which has already provided some materials, has budgeted \$400,000 for educational assistance to southern Sudan this year, says Palm. But so far only \$60,000 has been raised, and half of that is for two vehicles for educational personnel to try to get around the vast, unpaved region. Street Kids International, based in Canada, and Norwegian Church Aid, with an office in Nairobi, have both pledged funds for education in the rebel areas.

Teachers are not paid. The SRRA has a little money of its own. Teachers hope they eventually will be paid in food, probably from international sources, "to survive," as one teacher put it, in a region where war has nearly destroyed the economy. Teaching takes them away from their subsistence family farms. The UN World Food Programme is considering funding food payments to teachers and for school meals, says a UN official in Nairobi.

Method  
Teacher training is a priority need, according to Ajiit Akue, the SRRA educational co-ordinator. Many trained teachers fled to Ethiopia or other parts of Sudan and are not likely to return until peace is restored, says one teacher. Many of those now teaching are doing so for the first time. With little training themselves and no books for the students, repetition for memorization is the basic technique many of these teachers use. And the method isn't working very well.

But Garang, one of the young students in the tree-shade school in Feriak, is soaking up what's available. Through a translator, he explains that when he gets big, "I want to continue my education. I want to know what in the world is going on, to know the world, or to be in politics."

Some students in his class live far away. They sleep in the village, which is near a swamp, along the Nile. Mosquitoes are so thick they have driven a number of students to return home for good, says Garang.

Then he made this request to the visiting reporter: "We need mosquito nets and clothes. They are important to us. They are equivalent to exercise books. I don't ask for more."

The Christian Science Monitor.

# Splash of colour and creativity

## Fall-winter collection

PARIS, (AP): Sparkling with colour, luxury and youthful abandon, Christian Lacroix's show of ready-to-wear and "Luxe" lines Sunday was a winner for women who want to have fun looking feminine.

The lean pants, minis, tunics, fitted or smocky tops of the ready-to-wear line melded right into the more expensive "Luxe."

"I love it," said John Fairchild, publisher of Women's Wear daily and W. "It's highly decorative. He gives the clothes personality more than any other designer, and it's never boring."

Looking pale but happy, Lacroix took a bow after the show in his shop on a summer day that radiated the same sunny spirit shown by the young man from the south of France. Still recovering from two back operations, Lacroix was walking stiffly.

The eye-catching clothes went from reversible shocking pink and orange shortie trapeze toppers over pink tights and high orange suede over-the-knee boots to little burgundy-yellow-black bicycle tights with pullovers or v-necked mini-tunics in chartreuse and rust with ribbed tights.

Lacroix also worked with a wealth of fabrics in happy combinations. Typical was an outfit featuring a jewel-buttoned burgundy and yellow jacket in a patchwork of little hearts and geometrics over a flowered tapestry miniskirt — the head and shoulders wrapped in a lame fringed stole embroidered with big flowers and stars.

There were endless ideas, like the chartreuse pique fitted jacket printed with raspberry pink triangles over tapered tartan pants with wide cuffs.

Slopes  
Another winner for colour was Italian Enrico Coveri. He drew inspiration from the ski slopes, showing brightly-flowered long pullovers paired with stretch tights, plus some hot numbers based on ski suits applied with starfish designs.

His plaid suits with long tweed jackets, matching brimmed hats and shortie sarong-split skirts were fetching for daytime. And the gym-suit body stocking worn with lame boots and a cape of multicoloured outsized mirror sequins appeared perfect for the apres-ski scene.

Meanwhile, Italian Romeo Gigli's Saturday night show drew praise for artistry.

Gigli went on his usual exotic trip of fabrics, producing heart-shaped coats in luxurious silks and velvets of brown and bordeaux with their narrow tops ballooning out at hemlines, the heads topped by little lace-sewn wimple hoods.

The coats over narrow stretch pants often had shawl collars so huge they completely engulfed necks and shoulders — the neckless, shoulderless look all part of the heart-shaped silhouette.

In shades of bordeaux, rust and fuchsia, Gigli played around with the big-collared shortie coats crackling with flame-shaped hems over the leanest striped pants, the outfit topped by a gold-embroidered red velvet wimple.

Lash look  
Rich quilted velvet, guipure lace and mirror sequins all added to the lush look of rich peasantry gone wild. But one wonders what Juliet would think of Romeo's paeon to evening: a high-waisted bubble of cocoon-wrapped shimmering silk aubergine gauze with lattice-lace sleeves.

No need to buy tickets to the Moulin Rouge or the Lido — designer Thierry Mugler's fall-winter ready-to-wear show for store buyers and press looked like a Paris nightclub. Mini dresses bared the leg right to its end and necklines were slashed to the waist. In back the dresses flared into saucy peplums under supertight waists.

Add sequins, glitter, velvet, rhinestones mix well with songs and dances by aging Paris nightclub stars from the 1950's — Amanda Lear and Alice and Ellen Kessler.

Throw in skin-hugging tights and low-cut flared jackets in tough and shiny black vinyl. Plus a transparent white stretch skin-hugging jump suit with rhinestones glued over the private parts. And you cooked up a girlie show from a Champs Elysee nightclub that staggered Mugler's audience.

Although the basic style of Givenchy changes little, his well-brought-up outfits sang with beauty and wearability after four days of far-out, sometimes vulgar styles in the 10-day fashion festival.

To the beat of American jazz of the '50's instead of the usual pounding rock, Givenchy paraded sighed-over knitwear — loose jackets or coats over skirts or belted dresses, often with knitted-in tiger designs. Some outfits mixed colours such as plum and mustard.

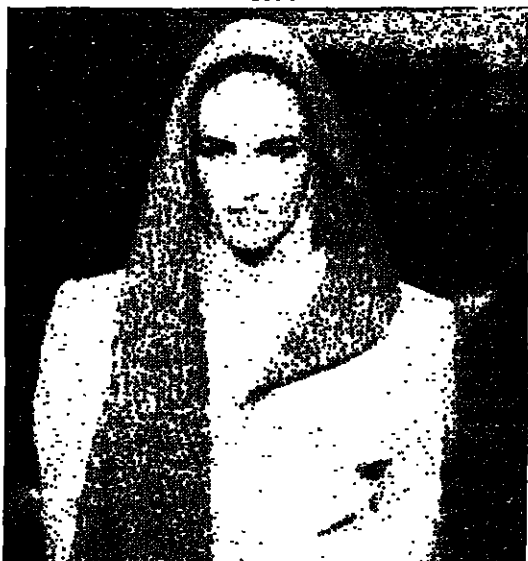
A black leather suit with a fitted collarless jacket bore the same rippling tiger motif in gold to match the gold jersey blouse.

Karl Lagerfeld rolled out supershort, superyoung skirts, jackets and coats that are magnificent on supershort, superyoung women. Other observers appeared disappointed.

He liked wide lapels, fitted jackets, capes, cigarette trousers, rows of brass buttons, stoles and scarves, tank-top dresses and embroidered lapels and pockets on short evening suits.



Italian designer Romeo Gigli presented this red embroidered velvet tunic over a green silk chemise as part of his 1990 autumn-winter ready-to-wear collection.



A Claude Montana model wears a white buttoned vest over a matching shirt and red cap.



Looking more android than mannequin, a model for Thierry Mugler presented a two-piece dress and hat outlined in fluorescent colours and displayed under a black light giving this skeletal effect.

# 'Corpse Lily' — under seige by bulldozers

KINABALU PARK, Malaysia, (Reuters): Cursed with a small like rotten meat and labelled the stinking corpse lily, the world's largest flower is under threat from man.

Development and logging in the jungles of Southeast Asia are endangering the survival of the foul-smelling blooms, which can measure more than a yard (metre) across.

Nature could not have devised a more precarious existence for the parasitic flower — botanical name *Rafflesia Arnoldii* — which attaches itself to vines, flowers rarely and needs rodents to propagate seeds from its fruit.

Its delicate life cycle is under siege by the bulldozers that are razing its habitat and the locals who collect its fruit for use in medicine or as an aphrodisiac, scientists say.

They are one of the 14 species of the flower, found only in Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand, has become extinct since the 1960s, and chances of survival for the rest are fading.

The plant has a flower with five leathery spotted petals ranging from dull yellow to red, said Jamili Nais, ecology director of Kinabalu Park in Sabah State on the Island of Borneo.

Blooms  
Seeds of the *Rafflesia* germinate for six to eight months into a thumb-sized bud on the *lancetarium* vine and take another nine to 18 months to mature, by which time the plant looks like a brown cabbage.

The *Rafflesia* then blooms for four to seven days. So unlikely is its reproduction process that a male and female plant must bloom side by side for the same period, said Jamili.

The offensive smell attracts carrion flies which help to pollinate the flowers.

"The chances of a male and female *Rafflesia* blooming side by side and (being) pollinated successfully are very slim," said Jamili.

The largest recorded flower, found in Indonesia, measured 42 inches (107 cm). Malaysian officials

found Sabah's largest specimen, measuring 36 inches (91 cm), last year.

The cycle of life, which lasts up to two years, ends when the flowers withers after less than a week's bloom leaving a fruit which looks like half a rugby ball and contains thousands of seeds.

Fruit  
As squirrels and rodents feed on the fruit, the tiny seeds stick to their whiskers and paws and are in the turn propagated as the animals scurry along the vine.

One species in peninsular Malaysia, the *scandenbergia*, is nearly extinct because locals collect the fruit to use in an aphrodisiac or a medicine to help women recover from childbirth.

Locals in Borneo do not eat the fruit but the *Rafflesia* is threatened by loggers who have cut away vast tracts of natural forest in timber-rich Sabah, Jamili said.

"The greatest threat is logging which destroys the vine on which the plant survives," he said. "The *Rafflesia* is rare, vulnerable and threatened. The entire species might be wiped out if nothing is done."

He said he once found a colony of *Rafflesia* buds in a timber concession area and asked the logging company to leave the vines untouched. "When we came back after a few months everything was gone — timber, vine and *Rafflesia*."

Specimens  
Jamili said he asked the government to give allowances to villagers who have *Rafflesia* on their land and to pay them for alerting and guiding rangers to each bloom.

Jamili said he hoped to identify areas where the *Rafflesia* thrive and charge tourists to view them to help pay for the conservation of the flower.

Meanwhile, rangers in Kinabalu Park are camouflaging each bloom. But they showed a magnificent 28-inch (71 cm) specimen, stinking and surrounded by carrion flies, to a recent visitor.



## FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

### ANAESTHETIC DISCOVERED IN 19TH CENTURY

QUESTION: Why on earth would anyone inhale nitrous oxide for fun? I'm a metallurgist, not a biochemist, but it seems to me that only effect would be to shortchange you on oxygen. For that matter, why would an anaesthesiologist use it? Am I missing some important information here?

ANSWER: You are missing quite a bit of pharmacology and some important medical history as well. And (forgive the pun) the laugh may be on you, for nitrous oxide is also known as "laughing gas."

Back in 1844, Dr. Horace Wells, a dentist from Hartford, Conn., who is credited with discovering this gas as an anaesthetic, was watching a theatrical demonstration of the effects of nitrous oxide. While generally the effects were those of euphoria and intoxication, frequently accompanied by hysterical laughter (thus the name), on this occasion, the subject became angered and jumped from the stage, cutting his leg deeply.

Wells noted that though the wound should have been painful, there appeared to be no suffering on the part of the victim, and speculated on the medical uses of the gas. Although difficult to manage, nitrous oxide was found useful as an anaesthetic.

However, some misguided individuals seeking a cheap high still use this gas without due respect to the dangers of this treacherous gas. It may cause nausea and vomiting, shivering and trembling, hallucinations and confusion. In animal studies it has been shown to provoke fetal death, growth retardation and skeletal abnormalities. It's used in low doses for obstetrical analgesia (pain suppression where loss of consciousness is not needed). Since it's a weak agent, it's most frequently used with other more potent anaesthetics to reduce the dosage needed to maintain adequate effect.

You're right about the need for oxygen though. Nitrous oxide is administered with no less than 30 per cent oxygen to maintain sufficient levels to the bloodstream, and thus the heart and brain.

Question: My father's physician is suggesting a bone scan to try and determine the cause of an ongoing pain. I would like to reassure Dad about the procedure, but I don't understand anything about it. Will you help?

ANSWER: Bone scans are used to evaluate bones and to detect areas containing abnormalities that may have been caused by infections, fractures, tumors or other disorders. They are safe and sometimes provide more detailed information than X-rays do.

When a bone scan is performed, a liquid containing a little radionuclide (radioactive material) is injected into a vein. In about two hours, when the bones have had time to absorb the material, the scan begins. The radionuclide emits signals that a scanner can detect, and these signals are converted into images of the bones. Signals from problem areas differ from normal ones, so that they reveal areas where something may be amiss. The pattern of the image offers clues to the physician that can help form an opinion or make a diagnosis.

Scans take about 45 minutes. During the procedure, the patient lies still on a table as the scanner moves around his body. For some types of equipment where the scanner remains stationary, the table will be moved. Immediately following the scan, your dad will be able to return home.

Radionuclide is excreted from the patient's body within a day or two. When bone abnormalities are discovered by scanning, other tests may be necessary to clarify a difficult situation, and assure an accurate diagnosis.

# Miniature hoods blossom

PARIS, (UPI): The hood revolution that has seized the Paris fall-winter ready-to-wear fashion shows burst out in a new form — miniature hoods in the Commes des Garçons parade for press and buyers.

Japanese designer Rei Kawa Kubo, in her ninth year of showing her unique styles in Paris, made grapefruit-sized hoods that bobbed on the backs of long white tunics over long slim black skirts.

Another little hood decorated one baggy top transparent black bloomers.

For the second season the artistic designer buried her black-and-white classics with colours as unusual as her styles. Chestnut brown, misty blue and pale apricot were used for short velveteen dresses or little skirts.

## Creations

Some outfits with sheer jackets combined three hazy colours.

Clumps of pleated ruffles clustered on the fronts or backs of long dresses.

For most of her angular, uneven creations, she used mainly unwoven fabrics such as a bonded, synthetic-

like packing material for loose short dresses. An exception was a real velvet shimmering in delicate stripes for long dresses with long, multi-coloured scarves wrapped around the neck or waist.

Ecological fake furs, another trend in the show of 92 designers, swung down the runway of Angelo Tarlazzi. Long bathrobe coats in black, burgundy or toast were breathtaking.

He also put false black fur on short and snug red suits.

Stretch fabrics are still another trend in the 10-day style parades, most of them under tents in the Louvre Museum courtyard.

Tarlazzi hugged every cell of the body with black stretch, micro-mini dresses and shirred skirts. Long black dresses with long-sleeves embroidered with glitter-like rows of bracelets were applauded. Gold leather embroidery sparkled on navy blue stretch suits.

But most of the bare, short-evening dresses would have looked right at home hanging around corner street lights.

Giant coloured hearts were sown on the side, front and even rear-end of tiny black mini dresses.



## VARIETY

# Alchemy rediscovered

Forgotten for 80 years

AS chemist William White shut up shop in 1909 to signal the end of another busy day he had no idea the pharmacy door would remain unopened for nearly a century.

Now, after more than 78 undisturbed years, the drug store has become a unique time capsule of Victorian alchemy.

And walking into the shop now you will find all the strange remedies, poultices and cure alls that he regularly dispensed to his customers.

Earlier this year a team of valuers carried out an inspection of the tiny shop in south Petherton, Somerset and uncovered the place completely untouched by progress.

The backroom "medical museum" had been boarded up after William White's death in 1909.

Mortar and pestles line the shelves, crammed with dusty stone specimen jars. Half an inch of dust covers the quartz carboys and domijohns.

Samples of various tree barks, roots, gum, dried leaves, poppies and sinister concoctions lie behind obscure gold leaf labels.

There's even arsenic and cyanide, prescribed in small, doses in Victorian times for curing headaches, common colds and stomach ailments.

For high blood pressure, varicose veins and bruises there are leeches. And for rheumatism, a solution of opium, known as laudanum.

The back room of the shop was sealed up when White died, leaving the business to his son Charles, who was unqualified to dispense drugs and sold only patent medicines, wines and spirits.

When he died in 1952, the business was kept going by his daughters, Margaret and Evelyn



Antique: the old methods of medicine — William White's pill rollers, mortars and pestles.



Potent: an array of oils and lotions from William White's pharmacy discovered after 78 years.

White. But the two elderly spinsters closed the shop when the decimal system came in 1969, refusing to handle the "new money".

They left the last day's takings of "old money" in the till and

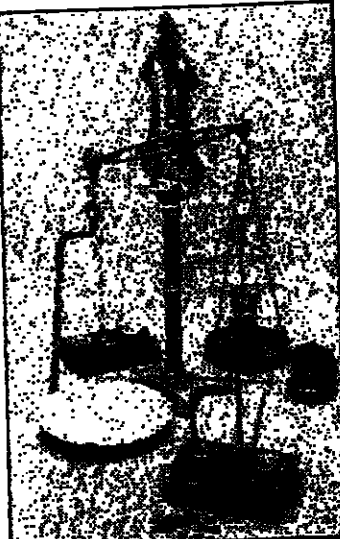
retired to the flat above the shop.

The back room has held its secret board of potions ever since — until one of the spinsters died and a survey was ordered before the building was put up for sale.

The discovery was enough to excite even the biggest pharmaceutical companies, such as the Wellcome Foundation, the Pharmaceutical Society, as well as countless museums and private collectors.

There is historical interest, too. For among the other things found is an original newspaper copy of the sinking of the Titanic in mint condition discovered with the ledgers, trade catalogues, and advertising brochures of late Victorian England.

And while many medicines may seem to have little in com-



Victoriana: original Avery scales, found behind a boarded up door in a West country chemist's shop.

mon with modern day medicine, White's extracts of Foxglove — known as "digitalis" — are used extensively today in the treatment of heart disease.

According to top chemist Leslie Matthews, the hoard is "priceless". At the auction, however, the sale of the shop itself proved slightly less expensive. It was sold for a bargain £91,000.

He says: "White would have been a jack of all trades. Not only would he have run the apothecary, he would have sold a host of household goods and agricultural implements. He may even have pulled teeth."

## JUNIOR TIMES

## Happy birthday



Ankita turned 6 on March 18.



Paul Pradeep turns 5 on March 21.



Sahani Jayaratne turns 9 on March 16.



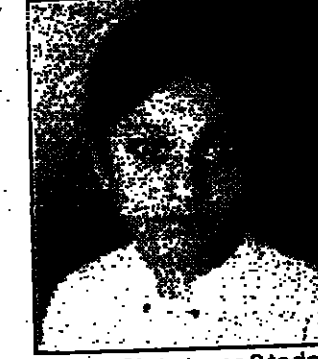
Joe Colaco turns 9 on March 21.



Nikhil Mannan turned 3 on March 18.



Zainab Niereen turned 5 on March 18.



Shawn Pinto turns 8 today, March 20.



Lubna Nazeer turned 6 on March 17.

## Spring

Spring comes in March, making a rainbow arch. In this season flowers bloom,

bringing joy over gloom. Making the sun shine, on other things and the trees of pine.

This season brings joy, over the children who are coy.

Hello Spring, hello Spring, sweet are the things you did bring.

## Winter

Softly, softly falls the snow

from the heavy sky; like white feathers from a dove

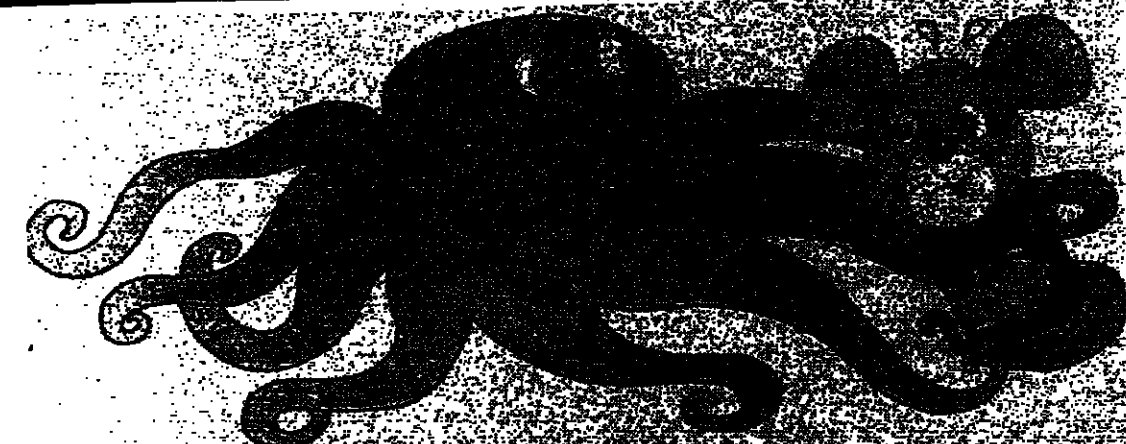
come the snowflakes from above

on the ground to lie. Softly, softly falls the snow

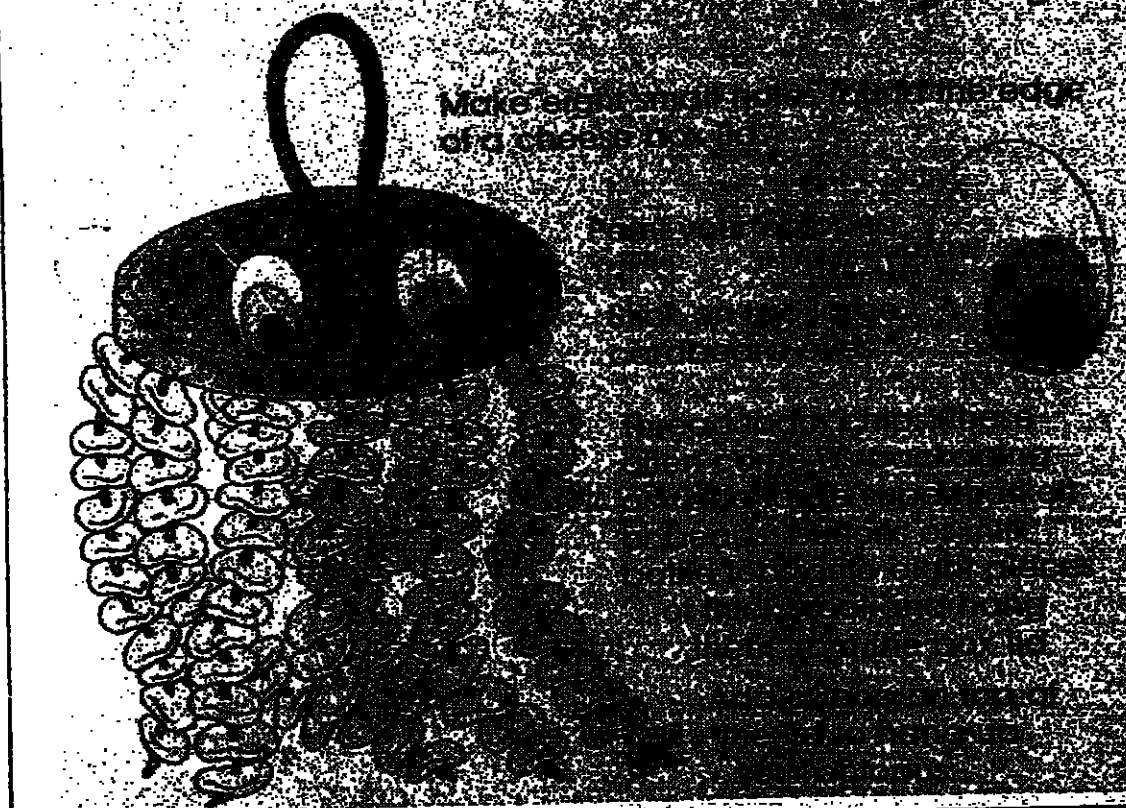
covering hill and dale, till the world is strangely fair,

white trees gleaming everywhere like a fairytale!

By Nida Khan,  
International School  
of Pakistan,  
Class Sr. 1A.



Hello, Mr. Cat. How are you?  
My name is ..... and I've come to visit you.  
I like your great big eyes that look like little blue eggs.  
I'd like to shake you by the hand and hug your legs.



Make signs and words on the edge  
of a piece of paper.

# EMBROIDERY SERVICES



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## Amazing facts

Pope Benedict IX became Pope when he was twelve, but was later expelled for vice and moral corruption.

A Park Ranger of Virginia, USA, has been struck by lightning seven times.

A ram adds an additional spiral section to its horns every year.

The southernmost manned lighthouse in the world is Cape Pembroke Lighthouse in the Falkland Islands.

The official cause of death of George IV was listed as rupture of the stomach blood vessels, alcoholic cirrhosis, gout, nephritis and dropsy.

The bayonet is named after the French town Bayonne.

## How do I get over feeling disappointed?

Talk about how you feel, then make the best of it. If you can't go to the cinema, maybe you and your parents could do something else together. You'll have a better day if you try to enjoy yourself instead of sitting around feeling sad.



This is more fun than a movie.

## Just for laughs!

My uncle's elephant went mad the other day. It needed a trunkquilliser.

This lion went into this shop and said, "I want a fur coat."

They said, "Why on earth do you want a fur coat?"

He said, "I'd look a fool in a plastic mac."

There were these two lions walking along Brighton pier.

One said to the other, "It's quiet for a bank holiday."

My mum went to the doctor. She said, "Doctor I feel like a piece of toast."

The doctor said, "You need buttering up."

My uncle said, "I'm building a new house but it's very draughty."

I said, "What are you building it with?"

He said, "Breeze blocks."

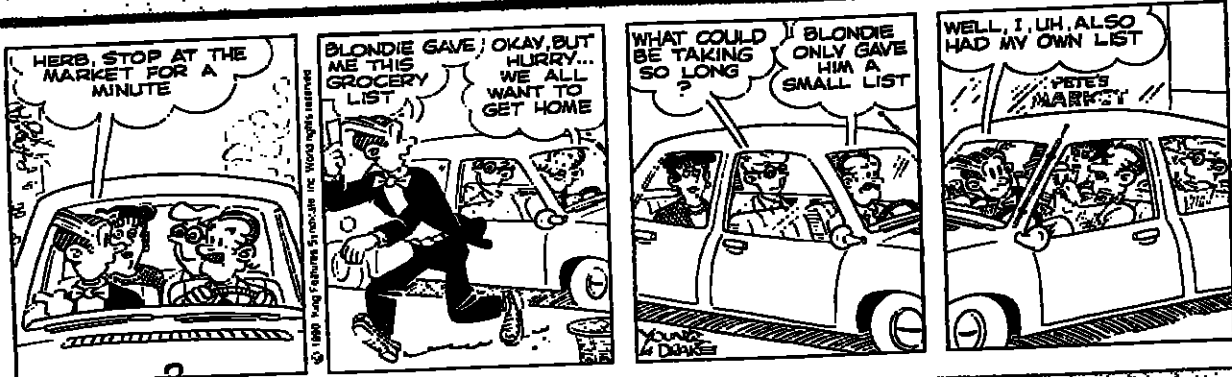




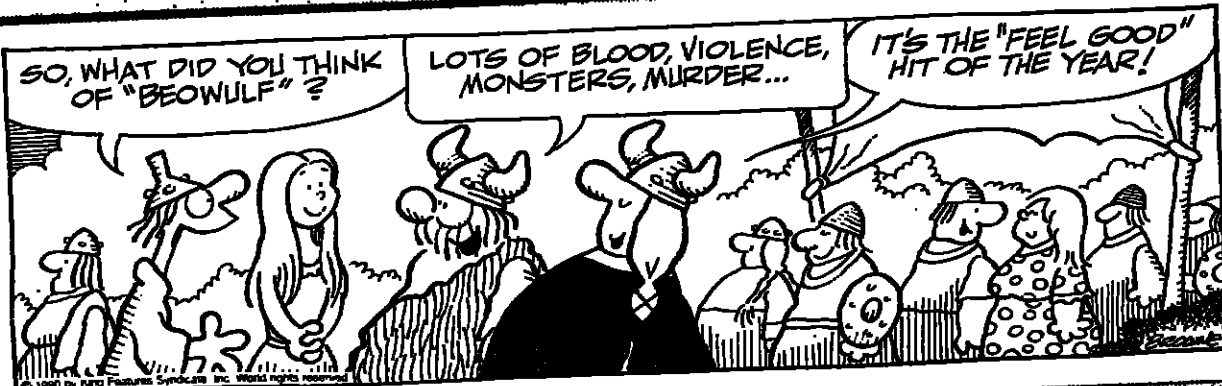


## LEISURE

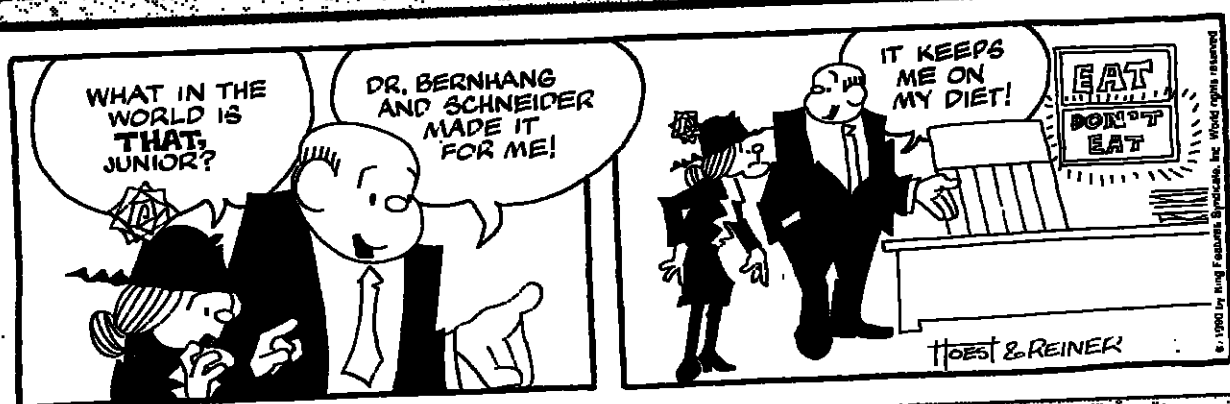
## BLONDIE — By Dean Young &amp; Stan Drake



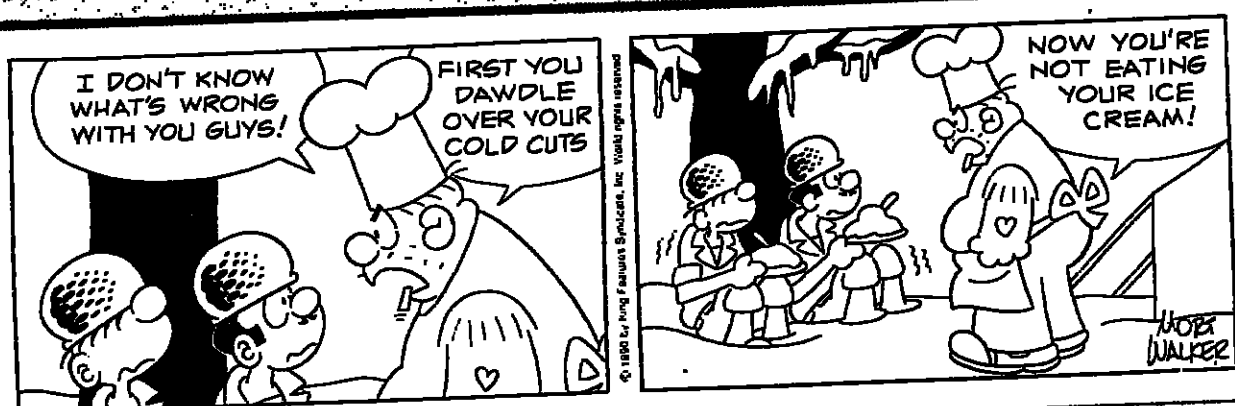
## HAGAR THE HORRIBLE — By Dik Browne



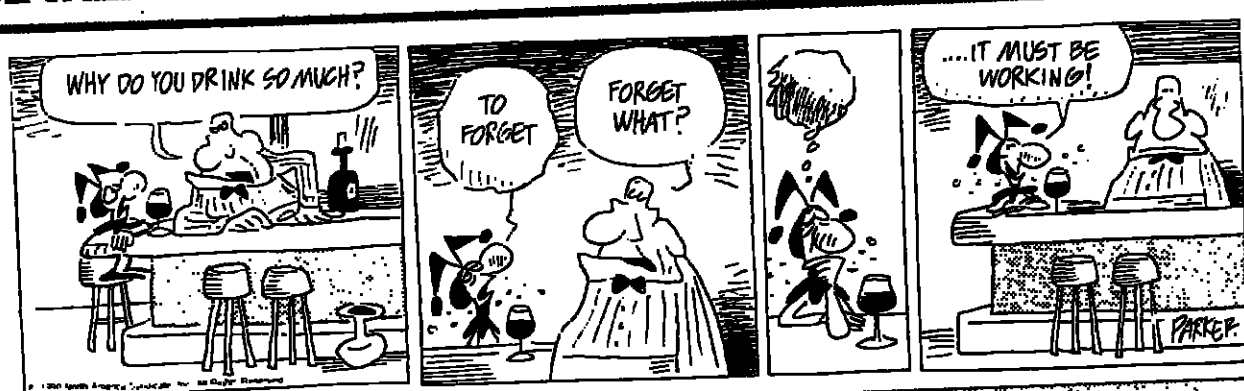
## AGATHA CRUMM — By Bill Hoest



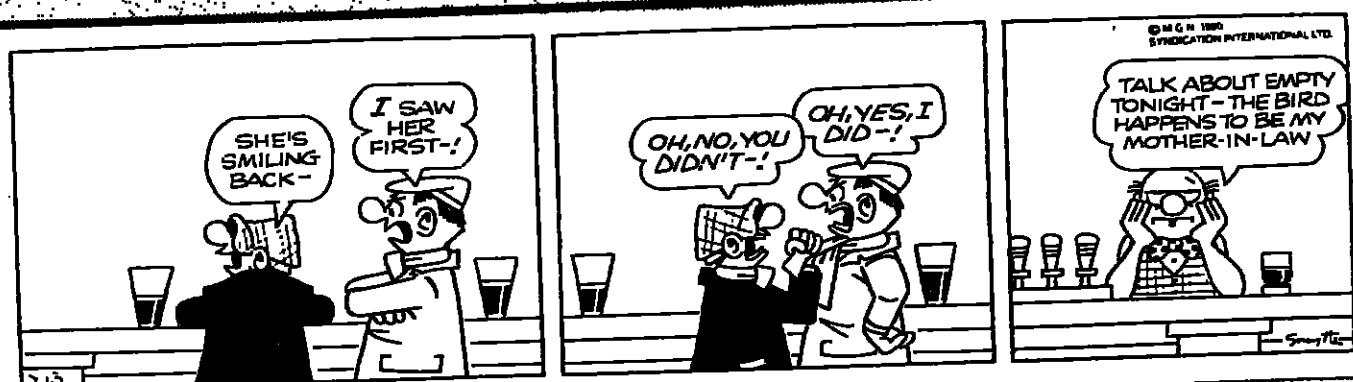
## BEETLE BAILEY — By Mort Walker



## THE WIZARD OF ID — By Brant Parker &amp; Johnny Hart



## ANDY CAPP



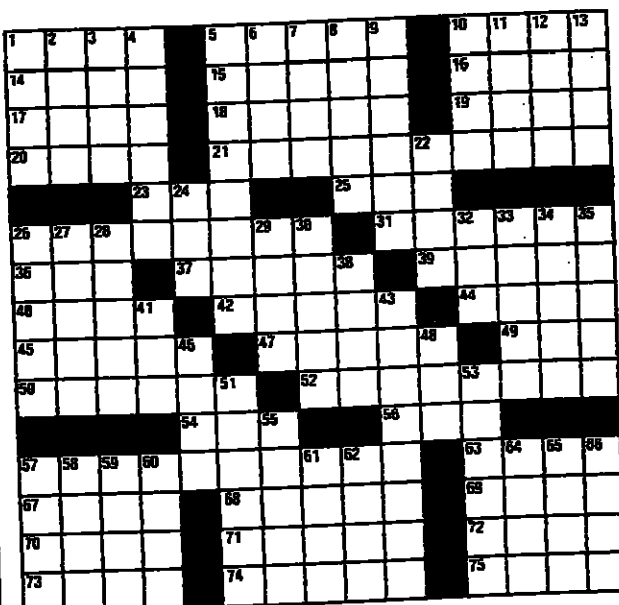
## B.C. — By Johnny Hart



## HE-MAN — By G. Fortin &amp; J. Shull



## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Speech fault
  - Guys
  - USSR news service
  - Theater org.
  - Elevate
  - Explorer
  - Tasman
  - Scrutinize
  - Muslim faith
  - Queen of Egypt, for short
  - Seat of ancient Irish kings
  - Standardized mental picture
  - Welcome
  - Furtive
  - Similarity
  - Conger
  - catchers
  - carte
  - John Brown's Body
  - poet
  - Metal fastener
  - Italian coin
  - Derivative sound
  - Typesetter's word
  - "Tinker to — to Chance"
  - See 38 Down
  - Female ruff
  - Seraglio
  - Energetic
  - MD's org.
  - Lair
  - Shed light on
  - Elephant's tooth
  - Body of water
  - Dud
  - Italian noble family
  - Emulate John Hancock
  - Choose
  - Inert gas
- DOWN**
- Endure
  - Peruvian Indian
  - Celestial body
  - Type of hat
  - Cartilages
  - "— of Eden"
  - World's longest river
  - Peter, Paul and Nicholas
  - Daughter of Cadmus
  - Diplomacy
  - Competently
  - Ooze
  - Blackthorn
  - and terminator (court)
  - Ecclesiastical vestment
  - Losses color
  - Active
  - More unusual
  - Danube feeder
  - Author Uris
  - et al.
  - Cover
  - Turn outward
  - CSA general
  - Spirited equine
  - Catch
  - Macaw
  - Three-pronged spears
  - Thailand, formerly
  - Word in a palindrome
  - Showed pleasure
  - Signify
  - Anoint, old style
  - facto
  - Girlfriend of
  - Down
  - Pilot's records
  - Arm bone
  - Iowa college town
  - Clock sound
  - Employer
  - Greek portico
  - Clark

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**

ARIEO DECA LIVE  
VEDA EMOTE ONER  
OBIT BUSHMASTER  
CATERERS TOMATO  
ATONE MERITED  
OER ABASER NEMO  
OSS RUSE DINER  
BUSHPILOT  
SHARP ANEW POR  
SOMA GOLDEN ANE  
TINNIER TALES  
ECARTE BOGOTA  
BUSHLEAGUE EMIL  
ANTE SKIRT NAME  
TOYS EISNE TRIES

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

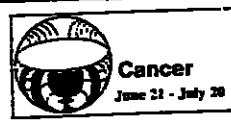
- Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:**  
♠6 ♥AQ5 ♦8763 ♣85432  
The bidding has proceeded:  
West North East South  
1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass  
4 NT Pass 5 ♠ ?  
What action do you take?
- Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:**  
♠832 ♥K10 ♦AQ92 ♣A954  
The bidding has proceeded:  
West North East South  
3 ♣ Dbl Pass ?  
What action do you take?
- Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:**  
♠AJ7 ♥Q109 ♦643 ♣8762  
The bidding has proceeded:  
West North East South  
1 ♥ 1 ♠ 2 ♦ ?
- Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:**  
♠10963 ♥K7 ♦AK6 ♣Q952  
Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?
- Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:**  
♠AJ3 ♥AK ♦AQ83 ♣AKQ9  
What is your opening bid?
- Q.6—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:**  
♠AJ94 ♥Void ♦KQ1087653 ♣6  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ 1 NT ?  
What action do you take?



## YOUR STARS



You should not allow yourself to be diverted from the main task at hand. Do not expect more than you deserve or else you will be disappointed. Give others a chance to say what they have to say. Be observant.



You will have lots more energy but you must make sure you do not dissipate it. You will be better able to enjoy yourself. However, you should certainly not live for pleasure alone. Be punctual.



Everything will take a lot longer than you had hoped so you should make sure you do not waste any time. And try to do your level best to concentrate even harder. Do not neglect your health and personal hygiene. Be reasonable.



You will have to make an immediate decision, delay could be dangerous. Not everything is as it seems to be so try to look a little more closely. Make sure you do not leave a friend in doubt about your intentions. Be less repetitious.



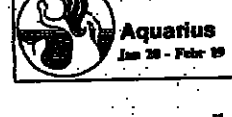
Do not try to take the credit for something you know well you have not done. There is no point delaying pay a bill which is soon due. You should make sure others are in no doubt about what you mean. Be tactful.



Something that has been puzzling you will now be resolved. You should try not to get hold of the wrong end of the stick. You should not place too much trust in a new acquaintance just yet. Be generous.



Try not allow a hobby to become an obsession. Your lucky numbers are 20 and 30. You should have a little more faith in yourself as well as in others. Do not judge things by appearances. Be reliable.



You are more easily distracted and should make a special effort to concentrate. Make sure you do not allow yourself to get caught up in detail. And do not lose sight of your objectives. Be on your guard.



You will feel more yourself than of late but you must not be overcome by euphoria. You will know how to deal with a difficulty. You should not expect others to do just what you would wish them to do. Be swift.



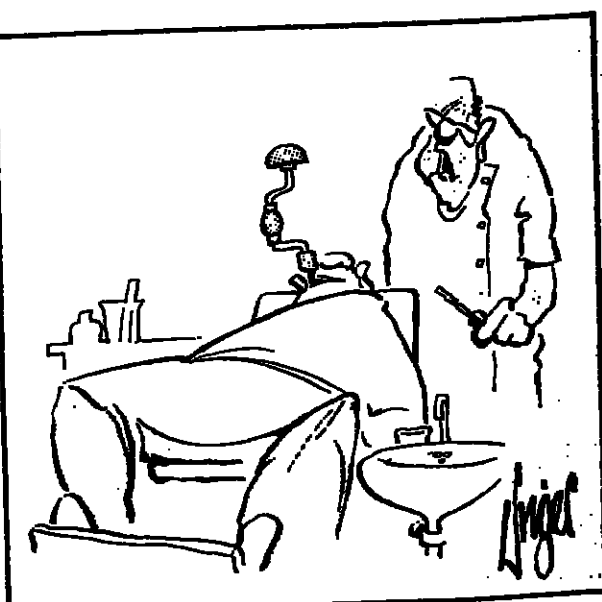
Not everything is as you would like it to be, far from it. However, your strength of mind will help you to deal with an unusual problem. You will be able to overcome a degree of uncertainty that has been bothering you. Be less vindictive.



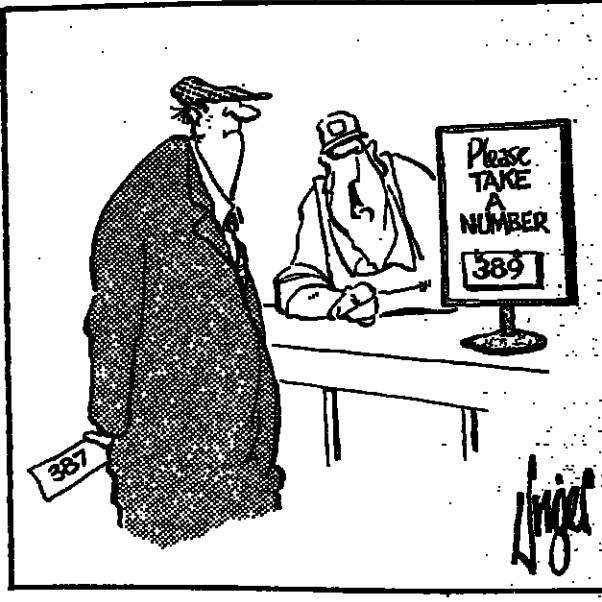
You should avoid trying to do by force something where persuasion has failed. A financial matter will require your immediate attention — if you leave it, it could be serious. You should not expect your children to be replicas of yourself. Be kind.



Something you have been meaning to do and putting off should not be delayed any longer. You should show a little more goodwill towards others. It won't do you any harm to show a little more kindness and generosity. Be accurate.



"The old methods are still the best."



"386 1/2 ...."



# ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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(AT2-51923-3)

## ACCOMMODATION

### For Rent

JABRIYA, villa. Tele. 2407640/1, 5744884/5, 5519800.  
(AT2-51925-6)

### Available

SALMIYA, House No.6, Block 12, Street 1, Salamiya Mubarak Street in front of petrol station. Large rooms in a flat for a family, working girls or bachelor to share with an Indian family. Bus routes 15, 19, 24, 27, 45.  
(AT5-51891-6)

FARWANIYA, near the co-operative. One room in a 2-bedroom flat for a couple or 2 bachelors, Indian, to share with a family. Tele. Thomas, 4742153 res.  
(AT3-51945-3)

SALMIYA, Baghdad Street. Accommodation with tele. facilities for Indian bachelors to share with a Goan family. Tele. 5712580.  
(AT4-51967-3)

MANGAF, one room in a ground floor flat, with bathroom, kitchen and tele. facilities including separate entrance, for a couple or two persons. Rent KD45. Tele. 3722412, 3724139, after 4.30 pm.  
(AT4-51959-3)

SALMIYA, near the Indian and Pakistani schools. One room in a 2-bedroom flat, for working girls or a couple, to share with a small family. Rent KD60. Tele. Ammad, 5634390.  
(AT4-51954-3)

QADISIYA, Block 8, Street 86, House 5, 3 rooms for families. Tele. Majeed, 2531378, after 2 pm.  
(AT4-51956-3)

FAHAHEEL, Makkah Street, near the Indian School, one room with AC for a Goan/Mangalorean bachelor to share with a Goan boy. Rent KD40 per month. Tele. Fernandes, 3914040 res.  
(AT3-51931-2)

## FOR SALE

### Cars

NISSAN Stanza 1.8 GL, 1984, beige, four doors, 52,000 kms, automatic, power steering, AC, stereo system. Driven by a lady, in immaculate condition. KD850. Tele. 4484485.  
(AT4-51962-3)

TOYOTA Cressida GL '83 model, automatic, A/C, sky blue, sunroof and stereo system in very good condition. KD1,250. Cash negotiable. Tele. Shahab, 3712870 after 2 pm.  
(AT4-51966-3)

TOYOTA Supra, 1983, manual, AC, chocolate colour, in very good condition. KD1500, cash. Tele. 5641578, after 3 pm only.  
(AT3-51939-2)

NISSAN Sunny, 1986, automatic transmission, AC, white, 86,000 kms, in excellent condition — body, machine and engine. KD1,300 negotiable. Tele. Samir, 2433801 off, 3902783 house, after 2 pm.  
(AT-51898-3)

TOYOTA Supra, '84 model, sunroof, automatic gear and windows, red, good AC. KD1,000. Tele. Ahmed, 4740351.  
(AT2-MC-HS-3)

PONTIAC 6000 LE, 1982, in excellent condition, with many new parts. KD1,200. Tele. 5730064.  
(AT3-51928-3)

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## SPORTS

## NBA ROUNDUP

## Hornets outclass Clippers

LOS ANGELES, March 19, (AP) Charlotte Hornets won for only the second time in 31 road games this season as Randolph Keys scored 13 fourth-quarter points, including a crucial 3-pointer with 1:45 to play against Los Angeles Clippers.

The Hornets, won the game (108-97) on Sunday for the first time in 11 attempts during their two-year history, broke a 13-game road losing streak and an eight-game overall streak.

**Nuggets 103, Timberwolves 98**  
Alex English scored 29 points and Denver scored the last five points of the game on free throws, handing Minnesota its 26th loss in 28 road games this season.

Danny Schayes broke the tie with a pair of free throws with 1:02 to go, and after a jump ball won by Denver, Michael Adams converted one of two foul shots for a 101-98 lead with 20 seconds remaining.

**Knicks 122, Nets 106**  
Larry Bird scored 29 points, grabbed 18 rebounds and had 11 assists yesterday as the Boston Celtics handed the New Jersey Nets their 20th consecutive road loss, 122-106.

The Nets, losers of six straight overall and 25 of 28, were led by Dennis Hopson's 19 points.

**Sonics 121, Warriors 116**  
Dale Ellis came off the bench to score 30 points and lead Seattle to a 121-116 victory over the Golden State Warriors and end a Sonics' five-game road losing streak.

Seattle's Derrick McKee had 11 rebounds and scored 15 of his 20 points in the second half. Chris Mullin scored 26 points and Mitch Richmond 28 for Golden State.

**Pistons 114, Mavericks 84**  
James Edwards and Bill Laimbeer led a balanced attack with 16 points each as Detroit defeated Dallas for its 11th straight victory, 114-84.

The Pistons, in the midst of the hottest stretch in franchise history, have won 24 of their last 25 games. They're unbeaten in nine games during March and have lost just once since Jan. 21, a 112-103 setback in Atlanta on Feb. 23.

**Cavaliers 120, Magic 103**  
Brad Daugherty scored a season-high 29 points and Mark Price had 25 as Cleveland used two big scoring runs to defeat Orlando, 120-103, the Magic's ninth straight loss.

Trailing 49-45 with less than three minutes remaining in the first half, the Cavs took command with a 14-0 run, and went on to their fifth consecutive victory. They trail Indiana by a half-game in the race for eighth place in the Eastern Conference.

**Trail Blazers 109, Rockets 96**  
Clyde Drexler scored 21 points and Portland used a 16-0 run in the third quarter to beat Houston 109-96 for its ninth straight victory.

Akeem Olajuwon, who had 21 first-half points, led the Rockets with 28 points and 15 rebounds.

It's the sixth time in team history that the Blazers have won nine straight games and the first time since the 1987-88 NBA season.

# Good Kompany finishes second Red Viking triumphs

RED VIKING won the second night race staged by the Kuwait Offshore Sailing Association (KOSA) earlier this week. The event, SS4, was a rerun of the fourth race of Kosa's current Spring Series.

The race was scheduled as a long distance overnight event with the aim of giving participating boats further exposure to the changed sailing conditions after sunset in preparation for the Bahrain Race in April.

The set course was a little over 42 nautical miles and basically consisted of a leg south to the Mast Cardinal, followed by a long haul north to the South Cardinal off Kuwait Towers, passing the West Cardinal along the way, a circular transit of the bay off Shuwaikh Port back to Kuwait Towers, a leg back to the Bell Buoy and a short leg to the finish line just off Shaab Marina.

Prevailing weather conditions augured well for the race as the start time approached with a light to moderate northerly wind, bright sunshine and a calm sea. At the start Shammal gained sweet revenge for her misfortunes the previous week when she managed to get to leeward of Danat and Gook Kompany and push them out of the start gate. Magic Flute, as usual starting a little down the line from the rest of the fleet, was second to cross the line. Red Viking and Gull Wing both misjudged the start and crossed some distance behind the rest of the fleet.

As the yachts rounded the windward mark after a short heat, a seagull observing the race from a prime spectator position near the mark noted that a poor start doesn't necessarily mean the end of the race as by this time Danat, by pointing higher into the wind and

avoiding a tack, had managed to pass Shammal to round just in front of her closely followed by Gull Wing who had made up a lot of ground from the back of the fleet. Good Kompany, Red Viking and Magic Flute.

The very dry reach out to Bell Buoy saw Gull Wing continue her good run when she rounded this mark in front of Danat with Shammal, Red Viking, Good Kompany and Magic Flute in pursuit. The strong ebb tide at this mark had Magic Flute in trouble who only avoided hitting it by some inspired helming and a freak wave at the critical moment pushing them around.

With the wind directly astern the leg down to masts was a dead run. All yachts had spinnakers flying an inspiring sight in the last vestiges of daylight. Gull Wing seemed to lose her way on this leg and went well south of the mark. Red Viking with her Big Boy aiding her spinnaker, made up a lot of ground on Danat and Shammal with the former rounding slightly in front of the latter and Red Viking just two boat lengths behind. Magic Flute passed Good Kompany on this leg to round a little behind Gull Wing.

By this time darkness had fallen and unfortunately your correspondent, along with just about everyone else in the fleet, lost track of the exact positions of the yachts. Even post race discussion threw little light on the subject as most of the yachts were out of sight of each other for long periods of time and when they did converge there was a lot of mistaken identity. The long leg north to Kuwait Towers was a beat. It seems that those yachts which elected to stay on the port tack towards Failaka did the best. By the time they had all passed West Cardinal, Danat was leading from Gull Wing, followed by Red Viking and Magic Flute a few minutes behind and Shammal and Good Kompany bringing up the rear.

As South Cardinal was left to port the positions were unchanged except that Red Viking had increased its margin on Magic Flute by a few minutes and Shammal and Good Kompany had closed with the rest of the fleet. The

crew of Magic Flute, after their close encounter with a container ship the week before, were somewhat concerned to see a large orange object approaching from the rear. They were somewhat relieved when this object continued its line straight up into the air and became the moon.

Danat continued to lead until the mark signifying the turn back towards Kuwait Towers. Her crew had trouble seeing this mark and continued well past until they saw Gull Wing round causing them to slip into second place. The rest of the race saw little change in positions. Danat managed to close with Gull Wing until the finish which saw, albeit from different directions, Gull Wing crossing 35 seconds ahead of Danat. Red Viking sailed a particularly good spinnaker leg, again with the aid of her big boy which allowed her to decrease the margin of the bigger yachts and eventually give her the win. Shammal passed Magic Flute on the spinnaker leg but only managed to cross the finish line two minutes ahead.

The most pleasing result of the night was from Good Kompany, by far the smallest boat in the fleet, who although trailing her bigger sisters across the line, had sailed a very good race and took second place on handicap.

The race officer was particularly pleased with the night's racing. Conditions were perfect, the racing was very competitive with only 5 minutes separating 2nd, 3rd and 4th in the placings, a small margin after 10 hours of sailing but more importantly the post race conversation indicates that crew are in fact gaining the experience and confidence necessary for the trip down to Bahrain.

Handicap corrected results of race SS4 are: 1 Red Viking, 2 Good Kompany, 3 Danat, 4 Magic Flute, 5 Gull Wing and 6 Shammal.

Progressive scores after eight races in the Spring Series still find Red Viking leading with 23, followed by Shammal on 27.5 and Magic Flute on 29.75.

The next races are scheduled for March 23 and are two Cans events. The briefing for the first will occur at 9.30 am at the Shaab Marina.



Red Viking: winner.

## Former racing driver admitted to hospital

LONDON, March 19, (AP) Former auto racing champion Stirling Moss is recovering in the hospital after being hit by a car while driving his motor scooter in central London, Westminster Hospital said today.

Moss' publicist Linda Patterson said doctors inserted three metal pins in the 60-year-old former Grand Prix driver's broken thigh bone.

Ms Patterson said the car went through a yield sign and hit Moss, who, she said was going 20 mph (30 kph). Police were investigating, she added.

"I have been told the recovery process will be a slow one—about six months," Moss said in a statement. "In all my racing career, in which I have had quite a few shunts, I have never been kept from behind the wheel for even half that length of time, apart from my 1962 accident."

Moss crashed at 90 mph (145 kph) during a race at Britain's Goodwood track in 1962. He was dragged unconscious from his car and remained in a coma for three days. The nine-time British national champion was paralyzed for six months following the accident.

Since his career began in 1950, Moss has competed in 494 races or speed records and won 222 of them, including 16 Grand Prix.

## Karpov asks for time-out

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia, March 19, (AP) Former Soviet world champion Anatoli Karpov today requested a postponement of the seventh game in the World Chess Championship Candidates Final match.

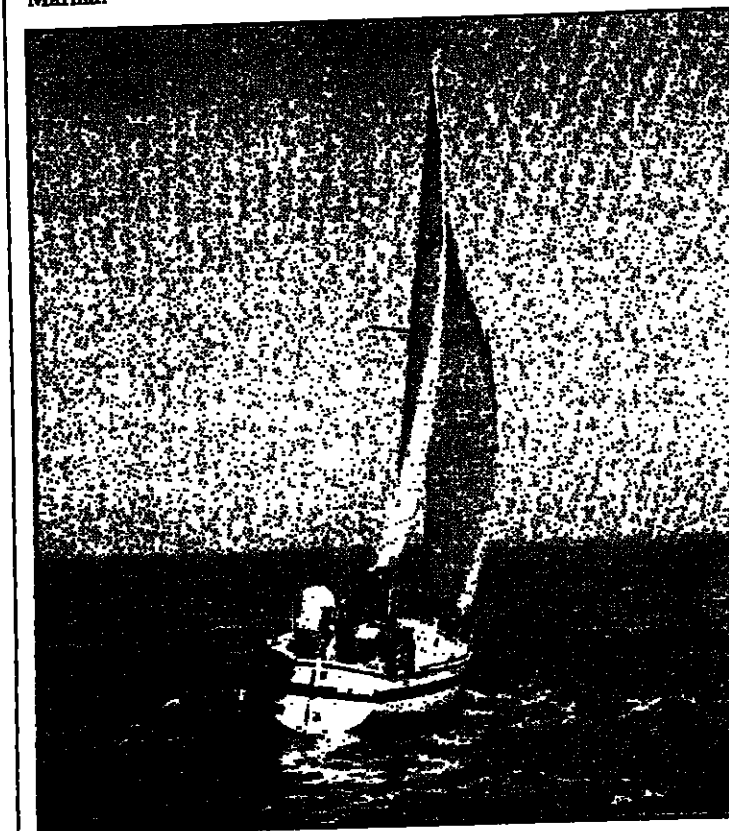
Karpov, playing the white pieces, failed to win the sixth game yesterday from a much superior position. Entering the endgame in a slight time-pressure situation, the Soviet grandmaster was a pawn up with rook and knight against Jan Timman's rook and bishop.

Nonetheless, Karpov could not make any headway without giving up his extra pawn and exchanging off his steed.

In the end, although white's two connected passed pawns looked very formidable, black's lone H-Pawn gave Timman the draw.

The seventh game will be played on Wednesday.

Karpov now leads the 12-game series by four points to Timman's two.



Good Kompany: sailed a good race

## Baseball lockout ends

Season to open April 9

NEW YORK, March 19, (Reuters) Major League baseball players and the teams' owners have agreed to a four-year labor contract, ending a 32-day delay of spring training and leading to the opening of the regular season on April 9, baseball commissioner Fay Vincent said today.

The spring training camps will open tomorrow and the first exhibition game is scheduled for March 26, deputy commissioner Steve Greenberg said.

"We're obviously concerned that two weeks of spring training is not adequate, that it's not long enough," said Dr. Bobby Brown, president of the American League. "We're counting on the fact that the players did some work on their own and that the third week will get them in good enough shape."

"I am delighted to have this opportunity to announce this agreement in principle," Vincent said. "It is a four-year agreement. It includes a minimum salary of \$100,000, up from \$68,000, substantial contribution to players (pension fund) of \$5 million for each of four years."

The major stumbling block to the new

agreement was the amount of service in the Major Leagues a player must have before he can seek arbitration for his pay.

The owners had insisted on maintaining at least the three-year service requirement, while the players wanted it rolled back to two years.

Although Vincent said he would wait for the chief negotiators to outline the agreement on arbitration, a source in the commissioner's office said a compromise had been reached, allowing some players with two years service to be eligible for arbitration while others must wait to complete three years.

Vincent said the players and owners were working on schedules which would make up games lost by the week's delay in the beginning of the season, which was to have opened on April 2.

Greenberg said 158 games would be relatively easy to schedule. The regular season calls for 162 games.

Answering a question, Vincent said: Yes, I think there's been damage done (to the reputation of baseball) and I think a number of us regret that damage."

## Zurbriggen ends glorious skiing career

ARE, Sweden, March 19, (Reuters) When Switzerland's Pirmin Zurbriggen skied the final race of his glorious career this weekend Alpine skiing lost one of its finest exponents and most exciting competitors.

Zurbriggen was undoubtedly the greatest skier to have raced the Pistes since the great heroes of the sport, Austrian Franz Klammer, Sweden's Ingemar Stenmark and Frenchman Jean-Claude Killy.

But after winning a record-equalling fourth overall World Cup crown this season at the age of 27, there was nothing left to motivate him.

For his uncompromising drive to excel in all disciplines was founded on extraordinary motivation, and the shy mountain boy from the village of Saas Almagell had run out of challenges.

"During most of my life skiing was everything. But for some time now I have felt I wanted to pursue other goals. I cannot focus 100 per cent on skiing anymore, so it is time to go."

"Twenty-seven is a good age to retire, when I am still a winner," he said.

The quiet, clean-cut Zurbriggen, who has preferred to let his results speak for him, reached the goal he set for his final season—to equal Italian Gustavo Thoeni's record of the 1970s of four overall World Cup victories.

He defended his Super-Giant Slalom title this season and won one downhill and three Super-GS for a total of 38 World Cup

race triumphs.

But as soon as the titles were in the bag his lack of motivation became evident as he finished eighth and 11th in his two final downhill races in this Swedish resort.

"It is important for me to be an all-round skier. Perhaps I could continue winning a race now and then in some discipline without being completely dedicated, but it is not for me," he said.

"When I was young skiing was a game. Then it turned into my living. But I have always treated it with passion."

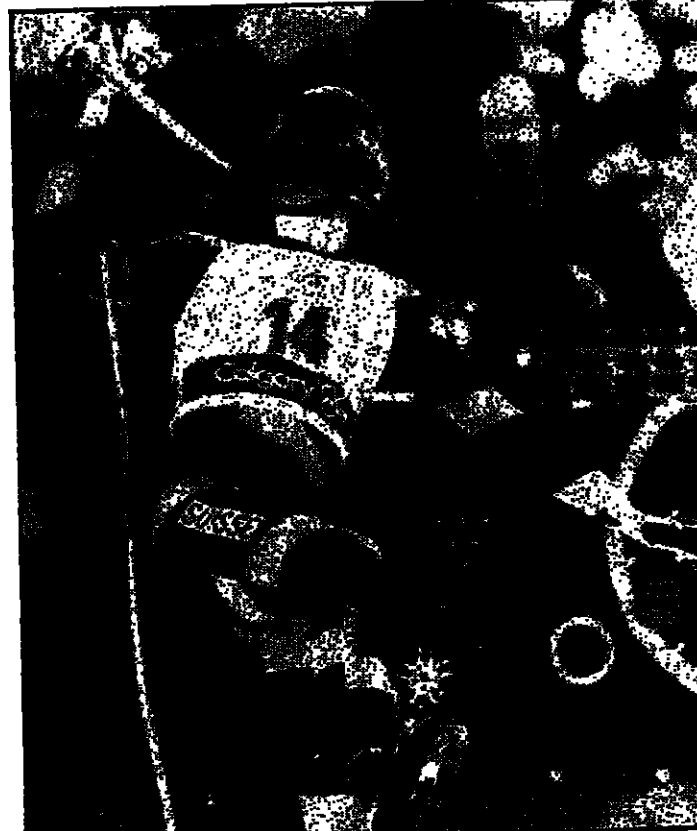
When Zurbriggen burst onto the Alpine scene in 1981 it was suffering from increasing specialisation by skiers who would excel in one or two disciplines and hardly enter races in the others.

He and rival Marc Girardelli from Luxembourg, who has won three overall titles in the 1980s but missed this season through injury, changed all that—reviving the all-round tradition of Austrian Toni Sailer and Killy, winner of three Olympic golds each in 1956 and 1968 respectively.

Now that Zurbriggen has gone the spectre of the specialists is likely to haunt the sport during the close season. Apart from Girardelli there is no-one to take on the champion's mantle.

Zurbriggen, who improved from 31st place overall in his 1981 debut to win his first World Cup all-round title in 1984, has race victories in all disciplines—including 10 downhill triumphs.

But his finest hour, which will



Zurbriggen celebrates his Olympic victory.

rank him among the finest of the slopes and was paradoxically also the beginning of the end to his career, was his gold medal at the 1988 Olympics in Calgary.

Zurbriggen already held World Championship golds in four disciplines and was on target for his third overall World Cup crown. But more than anything else he craved the Olympic downhill gold medal.

Zurbriggen had seen archival and team-mate Peter Mueller make a brilliant run to clock two minutes 00.14 seconds, and watched tensely as the following 13 skiers finished more

than a second off the veteran's time on the gradually deteriorating Olympic course.

Then it was up to Zurbriggen, the final starter in the elite group, to draw on the aggression and motivation which was always the secret of his success to stretch himself beyond his limit.

When it really counted, he produced the run of his life for 1:59.63.

"It was the greatest achievement of my career. I had to beat the mountain, myself, and finally Mueller to win the gold," said Zurbriggen.

The secret of his success may well lie in his upbringing. Son of a hotelier, he grew up in the mountains of south-western Switzerland near the town of the Zermatt—a rugged area where tourism has only recently made an impact.

"I come from an area where life is tough and the climate is demanding. People have always had to work very hard and this is in my genes," he said.

Although Alpine skiing will continue to be a major part of his life, Zurbriggen does not want to be too close to the slopes as he turns his focus on a family life with his wife Monique who he married late last year.

"Now life is more than just skiing. I want to settle down and have children," said Zurbriggen, who has numerous skiing promotion offers.

One of his projects include his own line of ski clothing with an Italian firm. "Perhaps I will study language or business," he added.

## Christie maintains unbeaten record

COSFORD, England, March 19, (UPI) Linford Christie climbed out of his sickbed to carry an unbeaten 60 metres record through to the end of the indoor track and field season last night.

The European champion went down the previous day with a stomach upset that threatened to rule him out of Britain's triangular international against the United States and the Soviet Union.

But he refused to disappoint a near-capacity 4,500 crowd and overcame a jittery start to win from American Greg Moses in 6.59 seconds.

Christie said: "It must have been something I ate. My head was spinning and my stomach felt rotten. I didn't think I would make it and if it had not been such an important match, which a lot of spectators were looking forward to, I would have gone straight home."

Christie was away from his blocks indifferently after being frustrated by three false starts and trailed at the halfway mark.

Then, as he has done so often this winter, he swept into overdrive to hit the front and finish comfortably clear of Moses, who clocked 6.67.

Christie, who forgot any thoughts of a crack at the world record, added: "Considering I have run more than 20 races this winter I was pleased to go under 6.60. Now it's time for a rest. It's been a long hard winter with the indoor season following the Commonwealth Games and I don't plan to step on a track for the next three weeks."

Marcus Adam gave Britain a sprint double with a 200 metres victory over American record holder Mike Johnson in 21.03 and the dependable Dalton Grant dragged one more high jump victory from his weary body, winning one comeback from American Jake Jacoby with clearances of 2.25 metres.

Britain was also served well on the track by two new international faces, Rob Denmark and Martin Steele.

Denmark, winning his first international vest, took the 3,000 metres in 8 minutes and 05.02 seconds, while Steele came through strongly to take the 800 metres in 1:48.37.

Those five victories pushed Britain into second place in the match, won by the United States' greater all-round depth. The Americans scored 121 points to Britain's 100, with the Soviet Union on 93.

Andrew Valmon (46.37 seconds) and Oliver Bridges (47.55) won their respective 400 metres races to underline the US depth over the distance.

## Falah opts out of rally

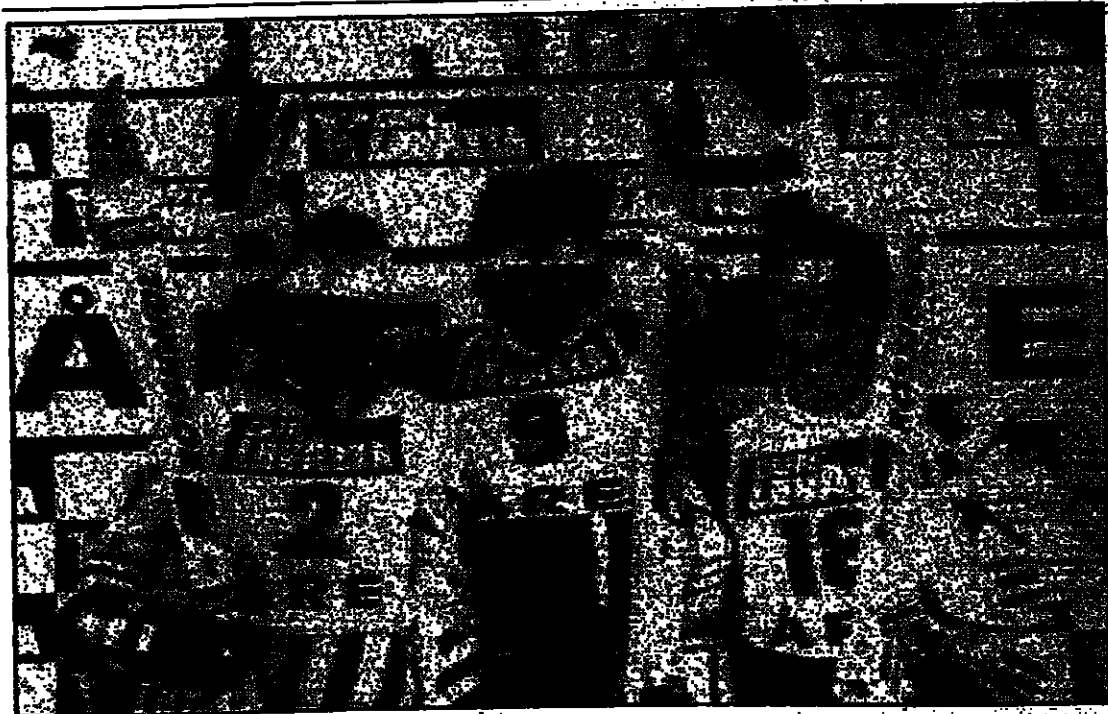
MUSCAT, Kuwait national champion Eid Falah and UAE star Suhail Bin Khalifa will not start the BP 2000 Trophy, Oman on Thursday afternoon. Both drivers have been forced to withdraw their entries due to logistical problems.

Falah speaking on the telephone from Kuwait explained that his vehicle was delayed en route to Muscat leaving no time for a rebuild of his short-wheelbase Mitsubishi Pajero. "I am very disappointed but will now start planning for the Jordan

even in July," said the Marlboro driver.

1990 Marlboro Desert Challenge leader Suhail Bin Khalifa from Dubai was forced to abandon his hopes of winning in Oman due to visa delays for his service team. The Dubai had entered a Range Rover in this Fisa registered event.

In total 23 entries have been received for this event the second round of the 1990 Marlboro Desert Challenge. The total route which is made up of 13 special stages is 760 kms long.



Schneider (centre) with Chauvet (left) and Wiberg. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Schneider takes World Cup title

ARE, Sweden, March 19, (AP) Vreni Schneider tried not to think about the little "Kugel" before the last run of a long, grinding season yesterday.

She was 11th after the first slalom run, 1.22 seconds off leader Claudia Strobl's pace.

At stake was the World Cup season slalom title. Schneider, coming off two straight slalom failures, trailed by eight points.

Schneider won the Swiss-Austrian duel, the race and the slalom championship as Strobl fell less than seven seconds in the windup run.

"Success and failure is so close together," said Schneider, who moved to third all-time with her 32nd career victory.

"After the first run I didn't think about the 'Kugel,' she said, referring to the little crystal ball that goes to the winners of each discipline.

"I just tried to prepare for the second run."

Schneider, who says she visualizes a perfect run at the start, had the fastest second run of the day, which vaulted her to the fifth slalom victory of the season.

Petra Kronberger, the overall champion who was 70 behind team-mate Strobl, was also disqualified in the second run after a gate miss.

"I didn't have so much energy in the first run, but I was explosive in the second," Schneider said.

"But my luck today was that Claudia went out in the second run."

Strobl remained at 108 points in the final slalom standings. Schneider improved to 125.

"I blew it today, but I still had a great season even if I didn't win the Slalom Cup," Strobl said.

Schneider, a double Olympic winner in the 1988 Winter Games in Calgary and the World Cup overall champion last season, had a combined time of one minute, 10.20 seconds.

Patricia Chauvet of France was a surprise runner-up, 30 behind Schneider, for her best slalom finish of the season.

World Cup rookie Pernilla Wiberg of Sweden placed third, 67 behind, on the relatively short slalom course.

Schneider came into the race after two straight failures, having been eliminated by gate misses recently at Stranda, Norway, and Vemdalen, Sweden.

At Vemdalen, Schneider claimed she was disturbed by an official and thus missed a gate. The Swiss team protested, but it was turned down.

"I have forgotten that race," Schneider said. "I'm just happy that I got revenge for that unlucky incident."



## Chavez, Taylor rematch certain

LAS VEGAS, Nevada, March 19. (UPI) — The controversial end to last night's Julio Cesar Chavez-Melrick Taylor 140-pound (63.5 kg) title unification bout makes a rematch a virtual certainty.

Even before the two entered the ring, there had been considerable talk that the matchup between the previously undefeated junior welterweights would be so competitive, a trilogy was a good possibility.

When referee Richard Steele declared a seemingly beaten Chavez the winner two seconds before the final bell, the seeds were planted for a quick rematch.

Chavez, behind on two of the three judges' scorecards, moved to 69-0 and retained his World Boxing Council crown when Steele decided Taylor could not continue after the only knockdown of the 12-round fight. He also added Taylor's International Boxing Federation title.

Taylor had risen from a thundering right as Steele's count reached five, but apparently did not respond when Steele asked if he was able to continue.

To complicate matters, Steele said that while he was tending to Taylor, he saw Taylor's co-trainer Lou Duva out of the corner of his eye climbing through the ropes.

"I was going to stop it anyway, but seeing him (Duva) in the ring made me know that I did the right thing," Steele said.

Duva argued that he believed the round was over.

"I think it's a helluva way to lose a fight," Duva said. "We won the fight for 11 rounds, two minutes and 58 seconds and then the referee took the fight away from us. He didn't do the job he was supposed to do."

George Benton, Taylor's other co-trainer, agreed.

"In a fight like that, you have to try to give each fighter all the benefits in the world," Benton said. "There are certain risks in this damn game and you can't be squeamish."

"The referee was just a little too quick waving it off. I admire Steele. I think he's a good referee. He just had a boo-boo."

Taylor, a Philadelphia boxer who fell to 24-1, spent Saturday night in the hospital because of a fractured orbit bone near his left eye, a split lip and severe dehydration.

"I fought the best fight I could," Taylor said yesterday. "I beat Chavez at his own game (inside). I wasn't hurt. I got caught with a right hand. I jumped right up and my head was clear."

"I heard the count. I stood still to let him know I wasn't on a queer street and I looked right into his eyes. I wasn't wobbly or anything."

Taylor tried to take the defeat in stride.

"I'm philosophical," he said. "I'm not bitter. I'm a man. I'm going to get two titles back."

Chavez, who made a career-high \$1.4 million, has talked of fighting Hector Camacho for even more money. But considering the commotion caused by Steele's actions, he realizes that a rematch with Taylor is inevitable.

"In reality, I thought it was a very even fight," Chavez said. "Then the 11th and 12th rounds, I was winning. What I didn't like were the judges who had me behind on their scorecards."

## Capriati moves into fourth round

# Noah eliminated, Sabatini triumphs

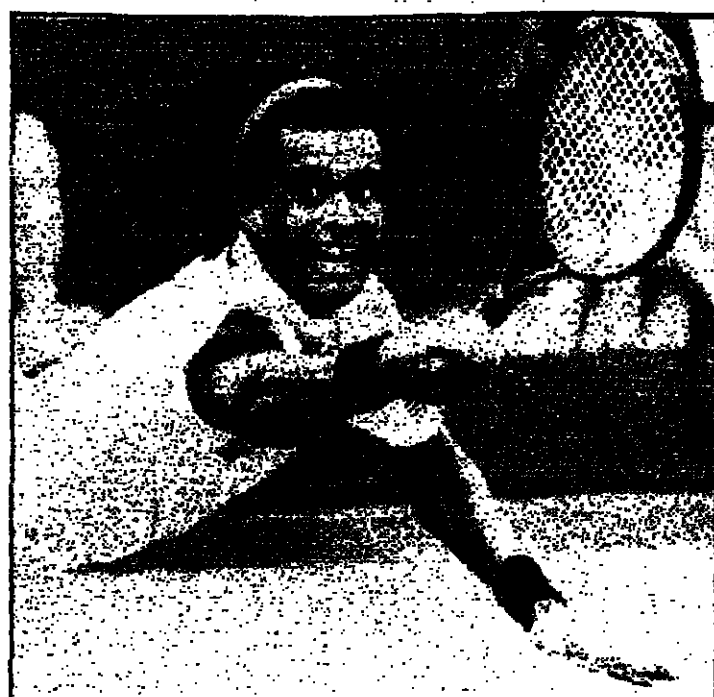
KEY BISCAYNE, Fla., March 19. (Reuters) — Yannick Noah of France was an upset victim but top-seeded woman Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina advanced at the \$2.55 million International Players Championships tennis tournament yesterday.

Noah, seeded ninth, was beaten by unseeded qualifier Mark Kratzmann of Australia 6-4 2-6 7-6 in a second round match. Sabatini had to work hard to get by the backcourt game of Japan's unseeded Maya Kidowaki 6-2 6-3.

Earlier, unseeded American teenage sensation Jennifer Capriati won her third-round women's singles match when her opponent, unseeded compatriot Patty Fendick, suffered a knee injury. Fendick was leading 4-2 in the first set when she retired.

Noah, ranked 12, has now lost in the first round of three of his last four tournaments. He came close to victory against Kratzmann, ranked 64, but a couple of loose errors at the end cost him the victory.

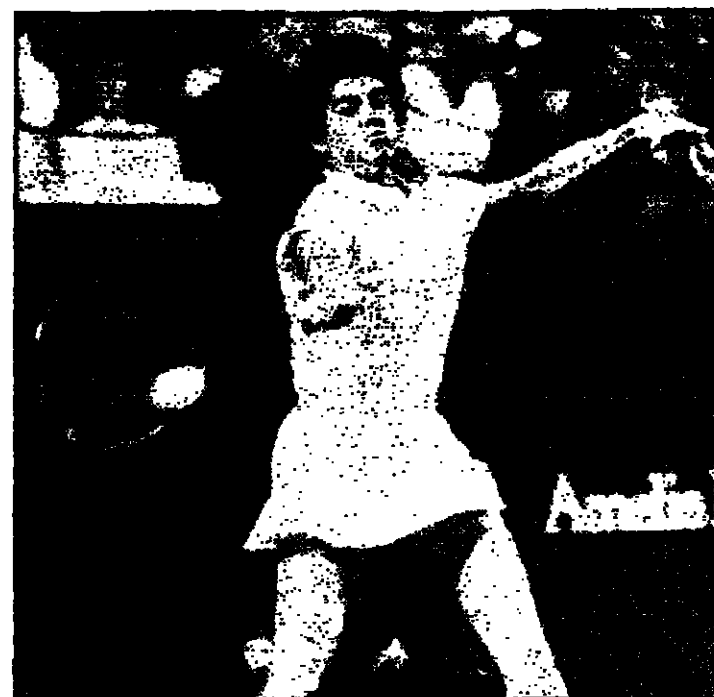
Kratzmann, a left-handed serve and volleyer, used his strengths to good advantage and passed the tall Frenchman effectively when Noah rushed the net.



Noah: knocked out by Kratzmann.

After splitting the first two sets, it was Noah who was always fighting to stay alive, staying off three break points at 4-4 and taking the set to the tiebreak at 6-6.

The players traded five consecutive breaks at the start of the tiebreak, but it was Kratzmann who took a 5-2 lead with an overhead smash. The dynamic Noah lunged for a crosscourt volley and leaped for an overhead



Sabatini: made to fight for victory.

smash to reach 5-4, then passed Kratzmann to even the score.

Kratzmann reached match point at 6-5 when Noah missed a chipped return, but Noah held off Kratzmann with a forehand

"At the end I made two lousy shots and that was it," Noah said. "I was very disappointed. When you lose it in the tiebreak at the end of the match it goes so fast. A minute before you were so close to winning the match."

Kratzmann said his new-found form was due to an improvement in his serve. "My serve's a lot harder now," Kratzmann said.

"It's not a weakness, it's a strength."

"He's been a legend in my eyes ever since I started on the tennis circuit," said Kratzmann, 23 of the 29-year-old Noah.

Sabatini's score made the match look easy, but her relatively unknown Kidowaki made her chase every ball.

Kidowaki, ranked 110 in the world, battled Sabatini from the base line, mixing up her shots to keep the Argentinian on the move. Sabatini dropped serve once in each set, but broke Kidowaki twice to stay ahead and won the match with an ace.

"It's the first time I heard about her," Sabatini said.

"She's very confident from the baseline. The score seemed easy but all the games were difficult."

## Harding retains WBC crown

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J., March 19. (Reuters) — Australian Jeff Harding knocked down Nestor Giovanni of Argentina with a left-right to the head to retain his World Boxing Council light heavyweight title yesterday.

Harding, 24, knocked down Giovanni in the third and 10th rounds before putting him down for the last time.

Referee Joe Cortez of the United States stopped the scheduled 12-round bout at two minutes and four seconds of the 11th round without even bothering to count out Giovanni, who was sprawled out flat on his back and had no chance of getting up in time.

Harding, now 17-0, floored the challenger early in the third round with a right-left combination to the head. Giovanni was up at the count of five and Harding waded in, landing a strong right-left to the head near the end of the round.

Late in the 10th round, Harding, 24, slammed a left to the challenger's head, sending him lurching across the ring before falling to the canvas. He was up at seven and was saved for further punishment by the bell.

Harding beat Giovanni in their first fight 10 months ago on a points decision after 10 rounds.

Giovanni, now 28-5-2, managed to do

some damage, opening a cut in the corner of Harding's right eye in the seventh round.

"I knew he wouldn't get up if he didn't call it out," Harding said after the fight. "He was very courageous."

"Giovanni is an awkward fighter and I was trying to nail him with one big punch. But he was counterpunching and that left me open to a lot of silly punches," said Harding, who won the title with an upset victory over Briton Dennis Andries nine months ago.

Giovanni said through an interpreter after the fight that he had hurt his right hand in the second round and that each time he threw a right he felt the pain.

## Witherspoon knocks out Gunnel

JAKARTA, Indonesia, March 19. (AP) — Former world heavyweight champion Tim Witherspoon scored a third-round knockout victory against fellow American Greg Gunnel last night.

Witherspoon dominated the scheduled 10-round match at Senayan Sports Palace, putting Gunnel on the defensive and making the victory merely a matter of time after the first round.

In the third round, Witherspoon unleashed a series of punches that made Gunnel totter near a neutral corner with his body partly outside the ropes.

Earlier, Anthony Hembrick and Greg Richardson, both Americans, defeated their Mex-

ican and Indonesian opponents.

Hembrick scored an eight-round technical knock out over Martin Armarillas of Mexico in the lightweight division and Richardson outpointed Indonesia's Ellyas Pical in the bantamweight category.

Former heavyweight champion Larry Holmes also performed in a four-round exhibition match, taking on former Colombian national champion Bernardo Mercado in the first two rounds then facing fellow American James Tillis in the remaining two rounds.

The former three-time champion Muhammad Ali attended the event as a honorary guest.

Canadian boxer Donny

Lalonde, who was scheduled to fight tomorrow for the first time in 18 months, underwent throat surgery yesterday, according to a hospital spokeswoman.

Lalonde, 29, knocked out in November, 1988, by Sugar Ray Leonard in the ninth round of their light heavyweight title fight, was in stable condition after the surgery, the spokeswoman for Lenox Hill Hospital said.

Lalonde, 31-3, announced his retirement last May, but changed his mind and was to fight American Bert Gravelly in Mississauga, Ontario, tomorrow.

It was not clear when Lalonde, 29, sustained the injury — a displaced cartilage in his throat.

## Salud's manager to file lawsuit

HONOLULU, March 19. (AP) — The manager for World Boxing Association junior featherweight champion Jesus Salud says he will press ahead with a lawsuit against the boxing organization to prevent it from taking his client's title away.

The WBA has threatened to strip Salud of his title if he does not fight the WBA's top contender, Luis Mendoza, in the challenger's native Colombia March 31.

The two sides tried to resolve the dispute last weekend in Las Vegas, but were unable to find an acceptable solution to all parties, said Bob Dephillips, Salud's manager.

## Yugoslav star bent on playing for NBA team

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, March 19. (AP) — Yugoslavia basketball star Dino Radja said yesterday he was determined to play for the Boston Celtics next season and that his home club had agreed in principle to let him go.

At the same time Toni Kukoc, Radja's teammate and another of Europe's most talented players, said he has no National Basketball Association ambitions but might be interested in Italy or Spain instead.

Radja signed with the Celtics last year for \$425,000, but the contract was blocked by a US federal judge who said Radja had a valid professional commitment with his Yugoslav team Jugoplastika.

"If the Celtics still want me, I'm ready to play for them next season," Radja said in an interview.

The 2.08-metre (6-foot-10) centre said that even though his Yugoslav contract runs for two more years, "Jugoplastika has in principle agreed to let me go this year."

Radja denied recent reports in the Yugoslav and Western press that he has offered to continue playing for one more year for Jugoplastika, the European champions, for \$400,000.

"Such reports are simply not true. In Europe I can get five times the amount given to me by the Celtics, but still, I'm determined to join the NBA team," he said. "Playing in the NBA represents a challenge for me."

But Kukoc said he had different ambitions.

"Despite some attractive offers from American teams, the NBA does not interest me for now," the 21-year-old Kukoc said.



Calcavecchia (left) and Bradley shot well but finished second in their tournaments.

## Mudd holds off Calcavecchia

PONTE VEDRA, Fla., March 19. (Reuters) — Jodie Mudd turned back Mark Calcavecchia's challenge to win the \$1.5 million Players Championship by one stroke yesterday.

Mudd fashioned a three-under-par 69 for a total of 10-under-par 278. It was his third victory on the PGA Tour and was worth \$270,000.

Steve Jones and Tom Purtzer tied for third place at four-under-par 284 while the 1989 champion, Tom Kite, tied with Hale Irwin, Ken Green and Billy Ray Brown at 285.

Calcavecchia also shot a 69 with three birdies on the incoming nine for a nine-under-par 279. It was Calcavecchia's third straight week of placing second and the fourth time he has been runner-up this year.

Calcavecchia won \$162,000 this week and now has \$551,040 for the year to move past Paul Azinger into the top position on the money list.

Through the final holes, it was a contest between Mudd and Calcavecchia, the British Open champion, with Mudd leading all the way.

Mudd led by a stroke when the final round started and he increased his lead to three after 14 holes. Calcavecchia birdied the 15th and 16th holes to pull to within one, but Mudd hit a splendid nine-iron shot onto the island green at the 142-yard 17th hole. He made the putt from 10 feet for a birdie and the cushion he needed.

### Birdie

Mudd bogeyed the final hole after a poor drive, but Calcavecchia could not get the birdie he needed.

"I can't believe I've won the tournament," the 29-year-old Mudd said. "This is my career right now. What it means is hard to explain. This is the Players Championship, our championship."

Calcavecchia said: "I haven't had many bad days on the golf course this year and I'm thankful for that. Jodie deserved to win. He played great today."

● In Tenerife, Argentine veteran Vicente Fernandez beat Briton Mark Mouland in a sudden death playoff to the Tenerife Open yesterday to record his first European golf Tour victory since 1979.

Fernandez needed three extra holes to clinch a victory worth \$54,000 after the pair finished with six-under-par totals of 282. Fernandez closed with a 69 to his rival's 68. The pair were two shots clear of the rest of the field.

The first playoff hole, the short 17th, was halved in three and at the next both missed the green with

their second shots. But while Welshman Mouland left himself a 20-foot birdie putt, Fernandez faced only a three-footer for the title.

Mouland missed and was ready to concede but Fernandez astonishingly did the same.

They returned to the 17th and again both missed the green. Mouland managed to put his ball to five feet despite needing a left-handed chip shot from behind a small bush. He missed the putt.

Fernandez putted from off the green to less than a foot and tapped his ball home.

● And in Tucson, Arizona, Colleen Walker coasted to a five-stroke victory to win her third career title with a final-round 72 at the \$300,000 Tucson Open women's golf tournament yesterday.

Walker finished five strokes in front of Pat Bradley, Heather Drew, Kate Rogerson and Betsy King who recorded 66, 71, 67 and 71 respectively on the final round.

"It is good to be back in the winner's circle again," Walker said. "I feel like I am back on track and am ready to win some more."

Walker began the round at 12-under-par for the tournament but quickly went to 14-under-par and to a seven-stroke lead after she posted two consecutive birdies on holes one and two.

"I was surprised I came out of the shoot that quickly," Walker said.

Walker fell back to 13-under-par after making her first bogey on the par-4 fourth hole. She cruised in with pars on the front nine making the turn at 13-under and in a firm six-stroke lead.

### Tendency

"When you have such a big lead it can be hard," said Walker. "You have a tendency to get sloppy out there."

Bradley, who began the day 11 strokes out, posted a seven-birdie and one-bogey round en route to a 66. "It was either feast or famine for me out there," Bradley said. "Everything came in bunches."

Drew, who graduated from the University of Arizona, posted a new career-best finish of a tie for second, which qualified her for the Dinah Shore tournament.

Rogerson's tie for second also was a career-best finish. She too qualified for the Dinah Shore. King had her best finish of the season.

"I feel better," said 1989's leading money winner. "I am hitting it more solidly."

## Hall shoots true to take Division A title



Two of the archers aim at the targets



KUWAIT ARCHERY FEDERATION held an outdoor shoot for both seniors and juniors on Friday at the Hunting and Equestrian Club, which is the only club in Kuwait that has archery facilities.

Omar Hamad Al Essa sponsored the competition. A keen archer himself he hopes by sponsoring such competitions it will encourage more people to take up the sport in Kuwait. The weather was too windy for any record breaking scores but the glorious warm clear skies contributed to the relaxed enjoyable atmosphere.

Twenty-eight archers of various ages watched their aluminium arrows fly through the air, to hit the large straw targets with satisfying thuds. Well, not all the arrows hit the target, but then 2004 were shot, so it was to be expected that some flew off into the desert.

The average pulling draw for the juniors was around 25lbs, that means they pull 25 pounds each time they draw an arrow. The total poundage pulled during the four hours, by each child was 1,800 lbs. no mean feat when you consider some of the children were 8-9 year olds.

The results of each division were as follows:

Senior Men  
Division A — 1st - Phil Hall, 2nd - Hani Bader.  
Division B — 1st - Joe Ljubic, 2nd - Bader, 3rd - Michael McHenry.

Division C — 1st - Dawood Ismail, 2nd - Ezz Al Arab, 3rd - Uni Menon.  
Division D — 1st Krishna Menon, 2nd - Graham Dow, 3rd - Mohammed Malik.

Division E — 1st - Nawaf Al Shamali, 2nd - Faisal Al Othman, 3rd - Sabah Al Jaber.

Division F — 1st - Abier Al Awadi, 2nd - Reem Malim.  
Division G — 1st - Sabah Al Rashid, 2nd - Sannaa.

The attractive prizes were presented by the sponsor Omar Hamad Al Essa and the managing director of the club Mohammed Majid Al Shaheen.



Archers shoot arrows at their targets and later examine their results.





## SPORTS

## SPORTS BRIEFS

## England triumph

BULAWAYO, Zimbabwe, March 19, (Reuters): Michael Atherton continued the remarkable run of form which has brought him 448 runs in five innings, scoring 101 yesterday as England beat Zimbabwe in the third and final one-day cricket match. England, put into bat by Zimbabwe, scored 247 for five off their 50 overs and then bowled out the home side for 219 to win by 28 runs and take the series 3-0.

## Wacker player

VIENNA, March 19, (UPI): Ernst Weber, the coach of Viennese soccer club Admira Wacker, has said the club will not release star player Gerhard Rodax for less than \$2 million.

## Hurdles champion

CARDIFF, March 19, (UPI): Welshman Colin Jackson, the reigning Commonwealth 100 metres hurdles champion, withdrew Friday from the British team for an indoor competition against the Soviet Union and the US Sunday.

## England players

LONDON, March 19, (UPI): Six members of the England Rugby Union team which lost Saturday's Grand Slam decider against Scotland have declared themselves unavailable for the three-week summer tour of Argentina. Record try scorer Rory Underwood and fellow British Lions Jeremy Guscott and Robb Andrew yesterday ruled themselves out along with Simon Halliday and Mark Bailey.

## Penguins player

PITTSBURGH, March 19, (AP): An agent for Pittsburgh Penguins player Mario Lemieux says the star center's injured back improved over the past week. "There's a great deal of encouragement about his overall condition and the likelihood he will not need surgery," Tom Reich told the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette yesterday.

## European champion

COPENHAGEN, March 19, (UPI): Eubank, the European boxing champion, has decided to retire because he has lost the drive to fight, it was reported yesterday.

## Top seeds win

TOP seeds continued to breeze through early round play at the Kuwait International Hotel's 1990 Amateur Tennis Classic.

Top-seeded Saleh Bushnaq upended Chris Myers 6-1 6-0 and second-seeded Ayman Hijawi defeated Giorgio Quintoro 6-3 6-2. Bushnaq later teamed with Majed Adham to whip Stanislaw Brennenstahl and Gregory Latala 6-0 6-0 and the second-seeded team of Hijawi and Walid Abu Lughud went down Arun Nair and A. Temton 6-2 6-2.

In other men's singles action: A. Nair ousted Rabi Nasser 3-6 6-2 6-1. T. Mittera defeated A. Negri 6-3 6-4. C. Brokmann edged K. Fadda 7-6 (7-5) 6-3.

In open doubles action: M. Al-Jazirah & P. Vincent defeated C. Myers & P. Stubbs 6-4 2-6 6-1.

N. El Kady & W. Saleh beat F. Fadda & K. Fadda 6-1 6-2. S. John & M. Saleh trounced M. Abdoh & D. Morrison 6-0 6-0. M. Simon & K. Soenksen defeated S. Abu Lughud & A. Saleh w-o.

C. Brokmann & A. Negri slid by S. Abe & T. Mittera 7-6 (7-0) 4-6 6-3.

## Wright hammers Aussies for unbeaten ton

## Kiwis score easy win over Australia

WELLINGTON, March 19, (Reuters): New Zealand skipper John Wright played a superb 117 not out today to help send Australia crashing to its first defeat in 15 cricket Tests.

Wright's aggressive innings paved the way for a nine-wicket win for New Zealand in the one-off Test in Wellington and allowed his team to wrap up the match with more than a session to spare.

Australia's previous loss was to the West Indies in Melbourne in December, 1988.

It was a fitting way for bowler Richard Hadlee to bow out of Test cricket in New Zealand. His availability for New Zealand's tour to England later this year remains in doubt.

After the match several thousand fans cheered Hadlee, as he was presented with a book autographed by Wellington cricket supporters wishing him well in his retirement.

"The time couldn't be better, with this victory over Australia, for me to leave Test cricket in New Zealand," Hadlee said.

"We have won credibility and respect all over the world and to play in this particular team has been quite outstanding."

Hadlee took five wickets for 39 runs in the first innings of this match.

New Zealand, after dismissing Australia for 269 in their second innings late yesterday, needed 178 to win on a wicket that continued to play slow but offered the best batting conditions of the match.

Wright told reporters after the match he thought the 178-run target was going to be difficult, but the wicket had died and was not turning sharply.

Wright's century came in 240 minutes off 185 balls and included one six and 14 fours. It was his tenth Test century and his third of the season. He passed the hundred mark twice against India this summer.

Wright, the Man of the Match, was modest at his post-match news conference.

"Batting conditions were probably at their best today," he said. "John Bracewell turned the corner for us yesterday, because if we had been chasing around 220, it would have been harder for us psychologically."

Bracewell took six wickets for 85 and allowed New Zealand to clean up the last four Australian batsmen for eight runs.

"He was the guy who won the match for us yesterday," Wright said of Bracewell. "If I hadn't got the runs today, someone else would have."

Australian captain Allan Border said his team was outplayed. "I can't offer any other excuses," he said.

"They batted brilliantly today, especially John Wright. We had visions of it being a difficult total, but they got it easily."

Wright and fellow opener Trevor Franklin began slowly in the first hour, but gradually compiled the only 50-run opening partnership of the match, before Greg Campbell when the score was 53.

The Australians were unlucky not to pick up a couple of wickets in the morning session, with pace bowlers Carl Rackemann and Terry Alderman beating the bat several times.



Hadlee: played last Test in New Zealand



Wright: remained not out on 117

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## Lara makes England bowlers suffer

POINTE-A-PIERRE, Trinidad, March 19, (Reuters): Brian Lara, only 20 but already rated a future West Indies cricket captain, struck a magnificent 134 for the President's XI against England yesterday.

The left-hander received a stinging blow on the hip by pace bowler Devon Malcolm early on, but he then subjected the tourists to a classic demonstration of batting.

Lara's innings ended when he was bowled behind his legs by Phillip DeFreitas. He faced only 180 balls and struck 19 fours and a six.

By the close of the second day of the four-day game the President's XI were 285 for seven, 33 ahead.

Lara suffered a loss of form in this season's Red Stripe Cup after making the squad for the final two Tests against India last year.

The last time he passed 50 was when he scored 182 for the West Indies under 23s against the Indians in St Kitts a year ago.

Lara reached his half century from 83 balls then accelerated dramatically. He needed only another 56 deliveries, nine of which he struck for four, to make his third first class hundred.

Off-spinner Eddie Hemmings broke a fourth wicket stand of 131 in only 26 overs when he had Gus Logie caught by wicket-keeper Jack Russell.

Lara so dominated the partnership that Logie contributed only 40, his first innings since fracturing a finger on February 8.

England, who started the day on 225 for seven, offered limited resistance in the morning, and were all out for 252.

Scoreboard (overnight 225 for seven)

G. Gooch c Harris b Haynes ..... 66

W. Larkins c Harris b Patterson ..... 1

A. Stewart c Adams b Benjamin ..... 6

R. Smith c Morgan b Haynes ..... 29

R. Bailey lbw b Baptiste ..... 52

D. Capel c Harris b Arthurton ..... 1

J. Russell c Harris b Baptiste ..... 25

P. DeFreitas not out ..... 10

C. Lewis lbw b Patterson ..... 21

E. Hemmings b Baptiste ..... 3

D. Malcolm b Baptiste ..... 8

Extras (lb-5 w-5 nb-20) ..... 30

Total ..... 252

## Rush back in Welsh soccer squad

LONDON, March 19, (UPI): Liverpool striker Ian Rush is back in the Welsh national soccer squad for the game against the Republic of Ireland in Dublin March 28.

Rush missed World Cup qualifiers against Holland and West Germany through suspension and injury, but makes a timely return to test the republic's World Cup defensive system.

Mark Hughes, Gareth Hall, Alan Davies and Andy Dibble are also back in the 16-strong squad after missing the 2-1 defeat by West Germany last

November.

In the last meeting between Ireland and Wales, also in Dublin, it was a Rush goal that gave Wales a 1-0 win.

The squad: Neville Southall; Andy Dibble, David Phillips, Mark Bowen, Noel Ratcliffe, Peter Nicholas, Andy Melville, Mark Aizlewood, Alan Davies, Barry Horne, Geraint Williams, Ian Rush, Mark Hughes, Darren Hall, Glyne Hodges, Malcolm Allen.

## Weissflog wins

OSLO, Norway, March 19, (AP): East German Jens Weissflog won the Holmenkollen ski jump for the second year in a row yesterday, but the event was stripped its World Cup status for 1990 due to jumping conditions.

Entrants successfully demanded yesterday that the event be declared test of the artificial surface and not part of the World Cup series.

South African Rugby Board president Danie Craven has written to each of the other seven unions asking them to renew links with the white-ruled republic.

"Now that the battle inside our country is particularly over, our government has embarked, like the whole of Eastern Europe and Russia, in particular, on the road of reformation," the letter says.

"My first message is: come and play us on a reciprocal basis as we used to play. The sooner the better New Zealand so that we can see if you are the real world champions at rugby."

Craven's letter met with a guarded response from the chairman of the English union, Sandy Sanders.

"We feel the time is not yet right," Sanders said. "We are as anxious as you to re-establish relations on the field of play between England and South Africa and are constantly monitoring the situation."

People do not understand the implications of what they are saying," he said. "They are talking about professionalism."

"The fact that players would not be paid for actually going out on to the field has nothing to do with it. They would still be professionals making money out of an amateur game."

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Craven's letter met with a guarded response from the chairman of the English union, Sandy Sanders.

"We feel the time is not yet right," Sanders said. "We are as anxious as you to re-establish relations on the field of play between England and South Africa and are constantly monitoring the situation."

People do not understand the implications of what they are saying," he said. "They are talking about professionalism."

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## International rugby board debates player payments

LONDON, March 19, (Reuters): The International Rugby Football Board (IRFB), an amateur body struggling to come to terms with the modern game, debates the vexing question of player payments at its annual meeting this week.

The eight-member board's conclusions will be announced at a news conference on Friday.

However, it already appears that a rift has developed between those unions who wish to see players recompensed and those who adhere to the game's strict amateur regulations.

Last December IRFB circulated all unions with draft regulations including compensation for players for loss of earnings and a relaxation of the laws forbidding payments for writing books and articles, making speeches and giving radio and television interviews.

These have been welcomed by New Zealand and Australia and the proposals are also likely to find favour with Wales, France and South Africa.

But IRFB sources say England remain opposed on principle to any player payments.

The sources say England will probably be supported by Scotland and Ireland, which will prevent the reformers getting the 75 per cent majority they need to change the laws.

Dudley Wood, secretary of the English Rugby Union, is unequivocal in his opposition to any relaxation of the rules.

"People do not understand the implications of what they are saying," he said. "They are talking about professionalism."

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## Denmark name new coach

COPENHAGEN, March 19, (UPI): West German Hans-Wolfgang Woblers has been appointed successor for compatriot Sepp Piontek as Denmark's national soccer coach, the Danish Soccer Federation announced yesterday.

Woblers, 40, who was previously the Danish public relations officer, is currently head coach for West German 1st division club Bayer Uerdingen.

Relatively unknown internationally, Woblers is considered to be among West Germany's group of young and fresh, but talented soccer coaches.

"We have chosen Woblers because we believe he has the qualifications we were looking for," said Hans Erik Jensen, chairman of the Danish Soccer Union.

Woblers, who has a degree in business administration from the West German University of Cologne, is looking forward to the challenge.

"I consider the Danish national team one of the best teams in Europe, and look forward to carrying on and developing the tradition of the team," Woblers said.

But the contract has not been signed yet and the appointment seems not without hitches. Woblers has over a year left on his contract with the West German club, and the Danish Soccer Union negotiated with Bayer Uerdingen about his release.

RESULTS of the Sunday Bridge game, first round, played Sunday evening:

N/S: 1. Rima & Fouad Farah; 2. Ady Hieb & Ahmed Hieb; 3. Dora & Mervin; 4. Adel Hieb & E.W.

1. Peter Harris & Jeff Hieb; 2. Salman Ali & K.T. Simon; 3. Djabeski & Grigori.

RESULTS of the Huddersfield Bridge Club game played on Sunday day:

N/S: 1. Sultan Ali & Amin Shahr; 2. Nabil Ali & Nereides Shah; 3. Benerji & Anil Shah; E.W.

1. John Barker & Fazel Hassan; 2. Schindler & Madi Ghalib; 3. T.V. Simon & J. Ghalib.

RESULTS of the Huddersfield Bridge Club game played on Sunday night:

1. Nida Ghafar & Subashini Ghafar; 2nd. Jazima, Anil & Helen Hughes; and Margaret Madhaff & Suzanne Cattermole.

RESULTS of the Huddersfield Bridge Club game played yesterday:

1. Nabil Ali & Laila Murtaza; 2. Rima Kasseem & Sahar Fakhour; 3. Rima Ayad & Ghafar Murtaza.

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